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THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
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QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY
QUESTION OF CYPRUS
THE RISK OF NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 17 April 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Guinea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the final communiqué and resolutions adopted by the twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers of the member countries of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, held at Conakry from 9 to 12 December 1995 (see annexes*).

I should be grateful if you would have these documents circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 28, 32, 42, 44, 54, 55 and 73, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hajja Camara Mahawa BANGOURA
Permanent Representative

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* The annexes are being issued in the languages of submission only.

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Annex I

FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE TWENTY-THIRD ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS
(SESSION OF PEACE, SOLIDARITY AND TOLERANCE)
CONAKRY, REPUBLIC OF GUINEA
17-20 RAJAB, 1416H (9-12 DECEMBER, 1995)

Bismillahi Arrahmani Arrahim

At the kind invitation of the Government of the Republic of Guinea, the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance) was held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H, corresponding to 9 - 12 December 1995 under the high patronage of His Excellency General Lansana Conté, President of the Republic of Guinea.

2. The Conference was attended by:

(a) Member States:

1. Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
2. Republic of Azerbaijan
3. Islamic State of Afghanistan
4. Republic of Albania
5. State of United Arab Emirates
6. Republic of Indonesia
7. Republic of Uganda
8. Islamic Republic of Iran
9. Islamic Republic of Pakistan
10. State of Bahrain
11. Brunei Darussalam
12. Burkina Faso
13. People's Republic of Bangladesh
14. Republic of Benin
15. Republic of Turkey
16. Republic of Tunisia
17. Republic of Gabon
18. Republic of the Gambia
19. People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
20. Republic of Djibouti
21. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
22. Republic of Senegal
23. Republic of Sudan
24. Syrian Arab Republic
25 Republic of Sierra Leone
26. Republic of Iraq
27. Sultanate of Oman
28. Republic of Guinea
29. Republic of Guinea-Bissau
30. State of Palestine
31. State of Qatar
32. Republic of Cameroon
33. Republic of Kazakhstan
34. State of Kuwait

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35. Republic of Lebanon
36. Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
37. Republic of Maldives
38. Republic of Mali
39. Malaysia
40. Arab Republic of Egypt
41. Kingdom of Morocco
42. Islamic Republic of Mauritania
43. Republic of Mozambique
44. Republic of Niger
45. Federal Republic of Nigeria
46. Republic of Yemen

(b) Observers:

i) States:

- Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- Republic of Uzbekistan.

ii) Muslim Communities:

- Turkish Muslim Community of Kibris;
- Moro National Liberation Front.

iii) International and Regional Organizations:

- United Nations (UN);
- Organization of African Unity (OAU);
- Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO);
- Arab Maghreb Union.

(c) Subsidiary Organs:

- Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre, for Islamic Countries, Ankara;

- Research Centre on Islamic History, Art and Culture, Istanbul;

- Islamic Institute of Technology, Dhaka;

- Islamic Centre for the Development of Trade, Casablanca;

- Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development, Jeddah;

- Islamic Fiqh Academy, Jeddah;

- International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage, Istanbul;

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- Islamic Solidarity Fund, Jeddah;
- Islamic University of Niger;
- Islamic University of Uganda.

(d) Specialized Institutions:

- Islamic Development Bank, Jeddah;
- Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Rabat;
- International Islamic News Agency, Jeddah;

(e) Affiliated Institutions:

- Islamic Committee of the International Crescent, Benghazi;
- Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Karachi;

(f) Islamic Foundations and Societies, as invitees:

- World Islamic League - Makkah Al-Mukarramah;
- World Islamic Call Society, Tripoli;
- World Muslim Congress, Karachi;
- International Islamic Council for Da'wa and Relief, Cairo;
- International Islamic Charitable Foundation, Kuwait;
- International Islamic Relief Organization, Jeddah.

(h) Invitees:

- Republic of Côte D'ivoire;
- Republic of Slovenia;
- Sanjak;

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- True Representatives of the Kashmiri People;
- U.N. High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR);
- U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO);
- United Nations Children Education Fund (UNICEF);
- U.N. Development Programme (UNDP);
- Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO);
- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC);
- World Health Organization (WHO);
- U.N. Committee for the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian people;
- Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS);

3. The Conference was opened by His Excellency General Lansana Conté, President of the Republic of Guinea.

In his opening speech, President Lansana Conté welcomed the delegates who made the journey to Conakry in great numbers.

After expressing his high appreciation for the commendable efforts exerted by the OIC Secretary General, Dr. Hamid Algabid, as the head of the General Secretariat, His Excellency General Lansana Conté stressed the extremely complicated situation in which the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers was being held. In this respect, he declared that the world was facing numerous deep crises and that the spiritual and moral values were being debased. He added that economic imbalances were causing, increasing and spreading endemic poverty and injustice in the distribution of the wealth produced, and persistent racial discrimination, wars, illiteracy and diseases were rife.

While deploring the fratricidal infighting among Muslims, His Excellency General Lansana Conté called on the Islamic community to further mobilize and show more active and more effective solidarity, particularly in the search for peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Afghanistan, Kashmir, Somalia, the Syrian Golan and South Lebanon. Among the tragedies witnessed on the African continent, he mentioned the situation in Liberia and Sierra Leone which has resulted in considerable political, economic and social difficulties for Guinea.

The President of the Republic of Guinea, His Excellency General Lansana Conté, recommended that the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers be the appropriate framework for assessing development aid and cooperation programmes, in a spirit of greater solidarity. In particular, he asked the Conference to consider the ways and means likely to ensure a more efficient operation of institutions and universities entrusted with dispensing knowledge and know-how to the Islamic youth who are being approached by all sides, especially by alien religious trends.

4. The Conference then heard the speeches of the Ministers and Heads of Delegations of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Republic of Mali who took the floor on behalf of the Arab, Asian and African Groups respectively, to thank the President, Government and People of Guinea for the brotherly welcome and generous hospitality extended to them.

5. In his speech, the Secretary General, His Excellency Dr. Hamid Algabid, commended the generous hospitality of the Guinean people whose history is spangled with epic feats and who have, over the years, set an example of determination in their struggle to assert their identity, their sovereignty and genuine African values. He paid a vibrant tribute to His Excellency General Lansana Conte, President of the Republic of Guinea, for kindly according his high patronage to the Conference.

His Excellency the Secretary General expressed his respectful and deep gratitude to His Majesty Hassan II, King of Morocco and Chairman of the Seventh Islamic Summit, for the unflagging solicitude and continued support shown to the OIC by His Majesty, his Government and People.

Taking up the international situation, His Excellency Dr. Hamid Algabid, while noting with satisfaction the progress made in settling some major issues of concern to the Islamic Ummah, expressed regret at the continuation of a number of disputes and conflicts and the procrastination of the international community in finding solutions for other world crises.

In this context, he evoked the efforts exerted by the OIC within the framework of the Middle East situation, the questions of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the Syrian Golan and South Lebanon, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Afghanistan, Somalia, Jammu and Kashmir, as well as the questions of Cyprus, of Muslims in Southern Philippines, and Armenian aggression against Azerbaijan.

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He called on member states to show increased solidarity with the drought stricken Sahel countries, and expressed the hope that the OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme be quickly implemented for the benefit of the populations of the region.

In the economic field, he stressed the need to promote greater economic cooperation between member states.

In the cultural field, His Excellency the Secretary General commended the work done by the Group of Government Experts on the Image of Islam set up by the Seventh Islamic Summit. He called on member states to encourage and support the Islamic institutions entrusted with dispensing education in keeping with the precepts of our religion. Finally, His Excellency the Secretary General turned to the precarious financial situation of the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs. He communicated to the Conference the recommendations of the Eminent Persons Group set up by the Seventh Islamic Summit with a view to increasing the efficiency and influence of the OIC as an instrument of Islamic solidarity and cooperation.

6. His Excellency Mr. Abdel Kabir Al-Alaoui Al-Mdaghri, Minister of Waqfs and Islamic Affairs and Head of the Delegation of the Kingdom of Morocco, communicated on behalf of the Chairman of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers the greetings and high appreciation of His Majesty King Hassan II, current Chairman of the OIC, and Chairman of the Al-Quds Committee, to his brother His Excellency President Lansana Conté, President of the Republic of Guinea, and to his honourable Government for the efforts they have exerted to ensure the success of this Conference. His Excellency Minister Al-Madaghri stressed the importance of the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers which is being held, he said, at a critical juncture of qualitative mutations characterizing the new World Order. He stressed the need for the OIC to undertake the task of correcting the image of Islam in the outside world to counter the deceptive campaign aiming at smudging Islamic values and accusing Islam of fanaticism, violence and terrorism.

He also mentioned the results achieved by the Group of Eminent Personalities entrusted with the task of evaluating the performance of the Organization with a view to increasing its efficiency and ensuring a better coordination and cooperation between its member states.

7. His Excellency Mr. Kozo Zoumanigui, Minister in the President's Office incharge of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Guinea, was unanimously elected Chairman of the Conference.

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8. The Conference elected the Foreign Ministers of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Republic of Azerbaijan and the State of Palestine as Vice-Chairmen. The Kingdom of Morocco was elected Rapporteur General.

9. Following his election as Chairman of the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, His Excellency Mr. Kozo Zoumanigui stressed the importance of economic and social cooperation among member states and expressed satisfaction at the results achieved in this area. He expressed his conviction that the human and economic capacities of the countries of the Ummah constitute a reliable basis for the construction of a group of powerful nations capable of withstanding the assaults and boycott of the enemies of Islam.

His Excellency Kozo Zoumanigui also expressed his confidence that the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers will adopt the relevant resolutions that will contribute to further revitalize our Organization.

10. The Conference listened with interest to the messages of the representatives of the Secretaries General of the United Nations Organization and the Organization of the African Unity, and the statement of the Secretary General of the Economic Cooperation Organization.

11. The Conference decided to adopt the opening speech of His Excellency General Lansana Conte, President of the Republic of Guinea, as an official document of the Conference.

12. The Conference decided to place the current session under the sign of peace, solidarity and tolerance.

13. The Conference then approved the report of the meeting of the Senior Officials, presented by its Chairman, His Excellency El Haj Mamadou Saliou Sylla, Secretary General of the National Islamic League, member of the Government and Head of the Delegation of the Republic of Guinea at the meeting of Senior Officials.

14. The Conference adopted the draft agenda proposed by the meeting of Senior Officials.

15. The Conference noted with satisfaction the report of His Excellency Dr. Abdellatif Filali, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Kingdom of Morocco, Chairman of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, on the activities of the Organization during the period between the two sessions.

16. The Conference also noted with satisfaction the reports presented by the Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on several items of the agenda and on the activities of the General Secretariat

between the Twenty-second and Twenty-third Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers.

17. The Conference heard with fraternal sentiments the statement by His Excellency Atay Rasit who presented the just cause of the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus.

18. The Conference also heard a presentation made by His Excellency Mr. Nur Misuari, Chairman of the Moro National Liberation Front, on the negotiations between the Moro National Liberation Front and the Government of the Philippines.

A- ORGANIC, STATUTORY AND GENERAL QUESTIONS:

19. The Conference unanimously admitted the Republic of Kazakhstan as a full member of the OIC.

20. The Conference noted with satisfaction the reports of the Secretary General on organic, statutory and general issues. In this respect, the Conference expressed its appreciation of the Secretary General's report on the implementation of resolutions 1/7-ORG (IS) and 1/22-ORG respectively adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit and by the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and relating to the functioning of the OIC, of its subsidiary organs and of its specialized and affiliated institutions. The Conference expressed satisfaction at the measures taken by the Secretary General for the implementation of these important resolutions and invited him to pursue his efforts in this respect.

21. The Conference took note of the report of the Eminent Persons Group on the evaluation of the work done by the OIC since its inception, twenty-five years ago, and the identification of its needs so as to achieve a qualitative change and discharge its duties in the best possible manner. It also took note of the report of the Group of Government Experts on the Image of Islam in the Outside World and expressed its deep appreciation for the attention and care given by His Majesty King Hassan II, Chairman of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference and of Al-Quds Committee, to the work of both Groups. It noted with great satisfaction and gratitude the directives and orientation of His Majesty concerning the recommendations of the Group of Government Experts on the Image of Islam as well as the recommendations of the Eminent Persons Group. In this respect the Conference welcomed His Majesty's decision to have this Group continue its work so that it may complete the mission entrusted to it.

22. The Conference welcomed the initiative of His Majesty Hassan II, King of Morocco, Chairman of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference and Chairman of the Al-Quds Committee to establish the Bait Al Mal Agency for Al-Quds

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Al-Sharif, announced during the Fifteenth Session of Al-Quds Committee held in Ifrane in January 1995. It expressed the hope that the Agency will start its work as soon as possible.

23. The Conference elected the following member states as members of the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund for a two-year period:

1- State of United Arab Emirates;
2- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;
3- Republic of Turkey;
4- Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya;
5- Republic of Tunisia;
6- Islamic Republic of Pakistan;
7- State of Kuwait;
8- Republic of Yemen;
9- Arab Republic of Egypt;
10- Kingdom of Morocco;
11- State of Palestine;
12- Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan;
13- Republic of Niger.

24. The Conference also elected the following member states to the Financial Control Organ for a period of two years:

1- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;
2- State of United Arab Emirates;
3- Republic of Yemen;
4- Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya;
5- Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh;
6- Islamic Republic of Pakistan;
7- Republic of Senegal;
8- Republic of Tunisia.

25. The Conference noted with satisfaction the Secretary General's report on cooperation between the OIC the United Nations and other regional and international organizations. It welcomed such cooperation and expressed the hope that it will develop further.

26. The Conference took note of the proposal made by the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to hold an extraordinary session of the Islamic Summit Conference in Pakistan in March 1997 to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the creation of Pakistan in 1997 and recommended that the Heads of State and Government of member states approve the proposal.

27. The Conference welcomed the generous offer made by the Republic of Indonesia to host the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers in 1996 and expressed its gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Indonesia.

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B. POLITICAL AFFAIRS:

Question of Palestine and Al-Quds and Al-Sharif:

28. The Conference reaffirmed that the question of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif is the prime cause of all Muslims, and expressed its solidarity with the Palestine Liberation Organization in its just struggle for removing the effects of the Israeli occupation and the building of the Palestinian national institutions on the land of Palestine so as to achieve the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people including their rights to return, to self-determination and to the establishment of their own independent state on the soil of their homeland with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

29. The Conference called upon member states to continue the consolidation of their solidarity with the Palestinian people; and to continue supporting the positions of the PLO in its negotiations for the complete withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all of the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 including Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

30. The Conference expressed its support for the peace process in the Middle East and welcomed the agreements concluded in its framework. It also welcomed the signing of the agreement on the implementation of the second phase of the Palestinian-Israeli Declaration of Principles and called for respect of all its components. It noted that the success of the peace process hinges on the implementation of resolutions of international legitimacy, including resolutions 242, 338 and 425 of the Security Council, on the basis of Arab and international understanding of these resolutions, and the "land for peace" formula and the need to enable the Palestinian people to exercise their national and political rights. It affirmed that a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East region can only be achieved through complete and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from all of the Palestinian and Arab territories occupied since 1967, including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the Syrian Golan and the occupied Lebanese territories.

31. The Conference reaffirmed that the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif is an integral part of the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967 and to it apply all the provisions applicable to the other occupied territories; and reiterated the necessity of its return to the Palestinian sovereignty as capital of the State of Palestine. It called upon all States to refrain from having any dealings with the Israeli occupation authorities which might be interpreted, in any way, by those authorities as an implicit recognition of the "fait accompli" imposed by the proclamation of Al-Quds as the capital of Israel. It reaffirmed that all legislative, administrative and settlement measures and arrangements

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that aim at changing the legal status of the Holy city are null and void and are in contradiction with the international agreements and conventions. It called upon all States to comply with Security Council Resolution 478 (1980) which invites member states not to transfer their diplomatic missions to the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif. It invited the international community, and in particular, the two co-sponsors of the Peace Conference, to compel Israel not to effect any geographical or demographic changes in the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, during the transitional period, that might affect the outcome of the negotiations on the final status of the City.

32. It condemned the Israeli occupation authorities' holding, in the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, celebrations for what it calls the "Third Millenary Anniversary of Al-Quds Al-Sharif" which constitutes a fallacious campaign that aims at counterfeiting the historic facts of the City of Al-Quds; and it called upon the States of the World to boycott these celebrations.

33. It strongly condemned the Israeli expansionist settlement policy and called for confronting it with all possible means and regarded all settlements established or to be established by Israel in Al-Quds Al-Sharif and in all other parts of the occupied Palestinian territories and the Syrian Golan as null and void in accordance with international legitimacy, and invited the member states to request the UN Security Council to form an international committee to supervise and monitor the prevention of the settlement process in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories.

34. The Conference condemned the continuation of the aggressive Israeli scheme to partition the Ibrahimi Mosque Enclosure in the occupied city of Al-Khalil and warned that any slackness in countering this scheme would encourage Israel to undermine the other Islamic and Christian shrines - a state of affairs that would adversely affect the peace process.

35. The Conference urged all States and the quarters concerned to support the international programme on economic, social and cultural development in the occupied Palestinian territories and to extend the stipulated necessary assistance required by the Palestinian people for the building of their national economy and for the support of their national institutions and the protection of the Islamic Holy Places in Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

36. The Conference called upon member states to honour their commitment to cover the budgets of Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf and urged them to initiate the settlement of their contributions. It appealed to those states that have not as yet announced their donations to Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf to do so as early as possible.

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37. It called on the international community and the Security Council to compel Israel to comply with U.N. Resolutions, particularly Security Council Resolution 487 (1981), to accede to the treaty of Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to implement the resolutions of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) calling for the subjection of all Israeli Atomic facilities to the IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards System, to proclaim Israel's renunciation of nuclear armament, and to submit a full report on its stockpile of nuclear weapons and materials to the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency as those steps are essential for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

38. The Conference commended the steadfastness of the Arab-Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan against Israeli occupation; strongly condemned Israel for not complying with Security Council resolution 497 (1981); and affirmed that Israel's decision to impose its jurisdiction, laws and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void. It also declared that the Knesset resolution of 11 November 1991 confirming the annexation of the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void and is without legal effect and constitutes a flagrant violation of Security Council resolution 497 (1981). It strongly condemned Israel for continuing to alter the legal status and demographic set-up of the occupied Syrian Golan. It affirmed that Israel's continuing occupation of the Syrian Golan constitutes a permanent threat to peace and security in the region. It demanded that Israel withdraws totally from the occupied Syrian Golan to the lines of 4 June 1967.

39. The Conference saluted the heroism of the steadfast Lebanese people against the Israeli occupation and strongly condemned Israel for its continuing occupation and annexation of parts of Southern Lebanon and its Western Bikaa. It strongly condemned all the inhuman practices of the Israeli forces in the occupied Lebanese areas. It called for the intensification of the efforts for the release of the Lebanese detainees from the Israeli prisons, the disclosure of the fate of the missing persons and the handing over of the remains of the martyrs. It also called for action to force Israel to implement the UN Security Council resolutions, in particular, resolution 425 (1978) which calls for immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the occupied Lebanese territories. It invited all States to increase their assistance to Lebanon in order to consolidate the political gains of the Lebanese Government.

Bosnia-Herzegovina:

40. The Conference reaffirmed its commitment to the safeguarding of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Republic of

Bosnia and Herzegovina within its internationally recognized borders and reaffirmed all previous OIC Resolutions and Declarations relating to the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

41. It strongly condemned the Serbian aggression against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, genocide and acts of terrorism, particularly the overrunning of the safe and demilitarized area of Srebrenica and safe area of Zepa by the Serbs as well as their attacks on other safe areas and the perpetration of acts of genocide, ethnic cleansing and other acts of inhumanity against the civilian population of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in blatant violation of Security Council resolutions and all norms of civilized conduct, law and morality.

42. It condemned the human rights violations by Serbia of the non-Serb population in Kossovo, Sanjak and Vojvodina and stressed the need to protect their basic rights and freedoms and to grant them the status commensurate with that to be granted to the Serbs in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

43. It urged that appropriate measures should be taken to ensure effective follow-up on the work of the International War Crimes Tribunal at The Hague as well as to ensure that those indicted by the Tribunal, including Karadzic and Mladic, are punished for their crimes against humanity, genocide and grave violations of international humanitarian law. It warned once again the Serb and Montenegran authorities as well as all persons who commit or order the commission of breaches of international humanitarian law in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina that they are individually responsible in respect of such breaches and will be punished for crimes against humanity and genocide in accordance with the Geneva Conventions and Convention on Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

44. It reaffirmed that the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina has the inherent right to individual and collective self-defence as recognized by Article 51 of the UN Charter and should be provided with all necessary means for self-defense to exercise individually or collectively its inherent right recognized by Article 51 of the UN Charter which includes its right to receive defence assistance.

45. It further reaffirmed the position of OIC countries that they do not consider themselves "de jure" obliged to respect the illegal and unjust arms embargo imposed against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a member of the U.N., which is the victim of Serbian aggression and genocide. It reiterated that consistent with Article 51 of the UN Charter as well as Article 1 of the Convention on Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, all

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states are under an obligation to provide necessary means to enable the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina to defend itself against aggression and genocide.

46. It rejected strongly any suggestion to permit or legalize any special or confederal relationship between the Bosnian Serbs and Serbia and Montenegro, as this would violate and undermine the territorial integrity of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It reaffirmed the principle of the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by the use of force and emphasized the importance of not taking any measures which would reward aggression or appease the aggressor as this would be detrimental to upholding the principles of the U.N. Charter and International Law.

47. It welcomed the Dayton peace agreement at the initiative of the United States. It reiterated the obligation of the international community to ensure the full implementation of the Dayton peace agreement in order to establish a just and durable peace in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the basis of the principles adopted by the Organization of the Islamic Conference in this respect.

48. It expressed its outrage over the deliberate and continuing military involvement of Serbia-Montenegro and its assistance to the Bosnian rebel Serbs and emphasized the need for taking effective measures to put an end to such illegal deliveries by strengthening the mechanisms to seal the border between the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia-Montenegro. It also expressed its opposition to the lifting of sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro (the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia), as well as any easing of sanctions.

49. It reiterated the need for an effective peace implementation mechanism under the mandate of the UN Security Council and reaffirmed the need to ensure adequate representation of the OIC troops in the multi-national force including effective participation in its command structure. It further reiterated that the financing of the operations of the multinational force to implement the peace agreement should be envisaged in a manner which should enable member states of the OIC to participate in the peace implementation force.

50. It appealed to the international community to assist in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and called on the OIC member countries to make special efforts to offer humanitarian, commercial, economic and technical cooperation to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It also called on member states to extend necessary assistance and support to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of

Croatia on a bilateral, trilateral or multilateral basis with a view to strengthening their economies and to promote mutual respect, firm friendship and cooperation between these two Republics as well as to fortify the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It expressed the urgent need for providing humanitarian assistance for the refugees and displaced persons of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

51. It welcomed and supported the decision of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia-Herzegovina to establish an "Assistance Mobilization Group for Bosnia and Herzegovina" in accordance with the Plan of Action adopted at the Meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia-Herzegovina and Troop Contributing Countries at Kuala Lumpur on 14 September 1995 for mobilizing and coordinating humanitarian, economic, legal and defence assistance in line with the obligations and commitments of the OIC member states under the UN Charter. It urged member states to actively participate in the efforts of the "Assistance Mobilization Group for Bosnia and Herzegovina" in order to mobilize greater assistance in different fields for the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

52. It reaffirmed that the direct participation of the OIC Contact Group in the implementation of the peace agreement would be essential to facilitate a just and equitable peace settlement.

53. It welcomed the Joint Meetings of the OIC Contact Group and the Five Nation Contact Group at Paris on 7 September, 1995 and at New York on 28 September, 1995 and underlined that these consultations between the two Contact Groups on a frequent and regular basis are essential for facilitating the realization of a just and durable peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina. It commended the work of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina and requested it to continue its work.

Jammu and Kashmir:

54. The Conference called for a peaceful settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir issue in accordance with the relevant UN Resolutions and as agreed upon in the Simla Agreement. It condemned the continuing massive violations of human rights of the Kashmiri people and called for the respect of their human rights including the right of self-determination. It also called upon member states to take all necessary steps to persuade India to cease forthwith the gross and systematic human rights violations of the Kashmiri people and to enable them to exercise their inalienable right to self determination as mandated by the relevant resolutions of the Security Council. It further called upon India to allow international Human Rights

Groups and Humanitarian Organizations to visit Jammu and Kashmir.

55. It affirmed that any political process/elections held under foreign occupation cannot be a substitute to the exercise of the right of self-determination by people of Kashmir as is provided in the relevant Security Council Resolutions.

56. It supported the efforts of the Government of Pakistan to initiate a meaningful bilateral dialogue for resolving the Jammu and Kashmir dispute and called upon the Government of India to respond positively to these efforts. It affirmed that a sustained dialogue is essential to address the core of the problems and to remove the basic causes of tension between India and Pakistan.

57. It requested the Government of India, in the interest of regional peace and security, to avail itself of the offer of Good Offices made by the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summit Conferences. It also requested the Secretary General to establish contact with the governments of India and Pakistan and the true representatives of the people of Jammu and Kashmir with a view to promoting a just and peaceful settlement of the Kashmir dispute.

58. It appreciated the efforts made by the Secretary General for enabling the true representatives of the Kashmiri people to have their views expressed in OIC and other international fora, and requested him to continue to take all necessary steps in this regard.

59. It appealed to the OIC member states and institutions as well as other Islamic institutions, such as the Islamic Solidarity Fund, and philanthropists to mobilize funds and contribute generously towards providing humanitarian assistance to the Kashmiri people.

60. It recommended that member states continue to coordinate their positions and to take joint action at the UN General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights and other international fora to promote respect for the fundamental human rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

61. It commended the efforts being made by the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir. It requested the Contact Group to continue its efforts for promoting the right of self-determination of the Kashmiri people in accordance with the UN Resolutions and for safeguarding their fundamental human rights.

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Afghanistan:

62. The Conference expressed its deep concern over the fratricidal conflict in Afghanistan and appealed to the Afghan leadership to spare no effort to bring the hostilities to an immediate end.

63. It emphasized the urgent need for a new political consensus among the Afghan parties. It further emphasized the need for the immediate establishment of an enlarged mechanism involving all Afghan parties to deal with all issues relating to the Afghan crisis including that of the transfer of power.

64. It affirmed the need for the launching of a credible intra-Afghan process for restoring peace and stability in Afghanistan and for reviving the political, economic, social and institutional infrastructure of the Afghan society.

65. It called upon the Afghan parties to extend their full cooperation to the ongoing efforts of the Secretary General and his Special Representative for promoting peace in Afghanistan. It reaffirmed the decisions of the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summit Conferences that the OIC should have an active role in the solution of the Afghanistan problem.

66. It emphasized the need for continued close coordination of efforts between OIC and UN for promoting a peaceful political settlement in Afghanistan by setting up a credible intra-Afghan mechanism. It expressed its appreciation for the continuing efforts of the United Nations to draw the attention of the international community to the acute economic and political problems of Afghanistan, and for promoting peace and mobilizing assistance for rehabilitation and reconstruction and in this regard, it encouraged the continuing cooperation between the efforts of the OIC and the UN Special Mission.

Somalia:

67. The Conference reaffirmed its commitment to the restoration and preservation of the unity, sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Somalia. It noted with appreciation the constant efforts made by the Organization of Islamic Conference to promote peace and national reconciliation in Somalia, as well as for the alleviation of the suffering of the Somali people in cooperation with the regional States, the United Nations, the League of Arab States and Organization of African Unity, in the framework of a joint approach and called for continuation of such efforts and requested

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the Secretary General to send a Contact Group to urge various Somali parties to resume their dialogue with a view to achieving national reconciliation.

68. It called for the convening of an international conference on peace and national reconciliation in Somalia in accordance with the relevant resolution of the UN General Assembly, with the participation of all the Somali parties and all the concerned international and regional organizations.

Iraqi aggression against Kuwait:

69. The Conference called upon Iraq to pursue efforts towards the fulfillment of its obligations under the relevant Security Council resolutions, for the establishment of security, peace and stability in the region.

70. It called on Iraq to cooperate fully and seriously with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Tripartite Committee in Geneva which was established under its sponsorship and supervision, with a view to implementing its engagements pursuant to Para. 2C and Para. 3C of resolutions No. 686 (1991) and (30) of resolution No. 687 (1991) pertaining to urgent release of prisoners and hostages from among Kuwaiti military troops and civilians and any others so as to put an end to this humanitarian issue.

71. It affirmed that Iraq, in accepting resolution 686 (1991) and resolution 687 (1991) is deemed accountable for implementing Para 2-B of resolution 686 and Para 16 of resolution 687 which involve the responsibility of Iraq under the relevant Security Council resolutions for reparations in respect of any direct loss or direct harm, including any attendant environmental damages, depletion of natural resources or any losses sustained by foreign governments, their nationals or their companies.

72. It reaffirmed Security Council resolution 949 which calls on Iraq not to use again its military or any other forces in an aggressive or provocative manner to threaten its neighbours or the U.N. operations in Iraq. It reaffirmed respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Iraq; expressed its sympathy with the Iraqi people and welcomed, in this respect, Security Council Resolution No. 986 (1995) and considered it to be a step that should be accepted and implemented by Iraq so as to alleviate this suffering.

Armenia - Azerbaijan:

73. The Conference strongly condemned the aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Azerbaijan Republic. It considered the actions perpetrated against civilian Azeri

population in occupied Azeri territory as crimes against humanity and strongly demanded the strict implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions 822, 853, 874 and 884, immediate unconditional and complete withdrawal of Armenian forces from all occupied Azeri territories, inter alia, Lachin and Shusha regions, and strongly urged Armenia to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Azerbaijan Republic.

74. It called on the Security Council to recognize the existence of aggression against the Azerbaijan Republic; to take the necessary steps under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations to ensure compliance with its resolutions; to condemn and reverse aggression against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Azerbaijan Republic and decided to take coordinated action to this end at the United Nations.

75. It called for a just and peaceful settlement of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan on the basis of respect for the principles of territorial integrity of states and inviolability of internationally recognized frontiers. It urged both Armenia and Azerbaijan and all states member of the Minsk Group to engage constructively in the ongoing CSCE peace process and refrain from any action that will make it more difficult to reach a peaceful solution.

76. It reaffirmed its total solidarity and support for the efforts being made by the Government and people of Azerbaijan to defend their country. It called for enabling the displaced persons and refugees to return to their homes in safety, honour and dignity. It expressed its concern over the severity of humanitarian problems concerning the existence of more than one million displaced persons and refugees in the territory of the Azerbaijan Republic and requested the member states, the Islamic Development Bank and the other Islamic Institutions to render urgent financial and humanitarian assistance to the Azerbaijan Republic.

US Aggression against Libya:

77. The Conference condemned again the continuing United States aggression and threats and plots against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. It supported the right of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to appropriate reparations for the physical and human losses sustained as a result of aggression as well as the right of the Jamahiriya to demand reparations from the United States in conformity with United Nations General Assembly Resolution 38/41.

78. It reaffirmed its solidarity with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in defending its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity against

the economic boycott measures which seek to undermine its plans for development.

79. It condemned the U.S. economic boycott measures against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and called for their cancellation forthwith as they violate international law and conventions. It called upon the United States to desist from all threats, provocations and acts of aggression against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya as such practices contravene international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

Crisis between Libya and United States, United Kingdom and Republic of France:

80. The Conference expressed appreciation for the readiness of the Libyan Jamahiriya to peacefully settle the dispute between Libya and United States, United Kingdom and France and to cooperate in order to establish a fruitful dialogue among all concerned parties.

81. It expressed concern over the escalation of the crisis and the threat to impose further sanctions or the use of force as a means of interaction among states, including violation of the UN Charter, and international laws and standards.

82. It called on all parties to exert greater efforts to reach a solution of the crisis thereby ending the plight to which the Libyan people are subjected as a result of the embargo imposed on them. It declared its support for the proposal made in the resolution adopted by the League of Arab States (Doc. 5373-DA,(101)-G 3) on 27 March 1994 calling for the holding of a just trial of the two suspects by Scottish Judges in accordance with Scottish law at the seat of the International Court of Justice in The Hague and urged the Security Council to take into consideration this constructive proposal in order to seek a peaceful solution to avoid any escalation of the crisis, which would exacerbate tension in the region.

83. The Conference condemned the continuation of sanctions against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and renewed its call on the Security Council to review its resolutions 731/92, 748/92 and 883/93 so as to lift the sanctions imposed on the Great Jamahiriya.

Cyprus:

84. The Conference reaffirmed the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences on the question of Cyprus which express firm support for the rightful cause of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus which constitute an integral part of the Islamic world. It reiterated its support for

the efforts of the UN Secretary General under his mission of good offices towards a negotiated settlement mutually acceptable to both sides. It welcomed in this context, the acceptance by the Turkish Cypriot side of the package of confidence building measures suggested by the UN Secretary General following his assessment of November 1992 that it would be difficult to achieve any success in the negotiations towards a comprehensive settlement as long as the current crisis of confidence between the two sides continues. It considered that the rearmament of the Greek Cypriot side deepened further the existing mistrust between the two sides and constituted a threat to peace and stability in the island.

85. It also expressed its solidarity with the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus and its appreciation for their constructive efforts to attain a just and mutually acceptable settlement.

86. It reaffirmed the full equality of the two parties in Cyprus as the principle enabling them to live side-by-side in security, peace and harmony without the one having the ability to exploit, oppress or threaten the other. It urged the member states to strengthen effective solidarity with the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus and to increase and expand their relations in all fields and in particular in the fields of trade, tourism, culture, information, investment and sports. It decided to support until the Cyprus problem is solved, the rightful claim of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus for the right to be heard in all international fora where the Cyprus problem comes up for discussion, on the basis of equality of the two parties in Cyprus.

87. It considered that building of mutual confidence between the two parties in the island is essential to make progress towards an overall settlement of the question. It called on the two parties to cooperate fully with the UN Secretary General to achieve agreement for implementing the confidence building measures and to resume direct talks without any pre-conditions. It also decided to remain seized of the request of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus for full membership of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

The Comorian Island of Mayotte:

88. The Conference reaffirmed the unity and territorial integrity of the Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros and its sovereignty over the Comorian Island of Mayotte. It expressed its active solidarity with the Comorian people and supported the Comorian Government in its political and diplomatic efforts to effectively restore the Island to its natural entity. It rejected any idea of dividing the Comorian Island of Mayotte into departments, as this would

be contrary to all relevant international resolutions and to solving the issue through negotiations in accordance with the willingness of the French and Comorian Presidents.

89. It urged anew the Government of France to accelerate the process of negotiations with the Government of the Comoros with a view to ensuring the prompt return of the Island of Mayotte to the Federal Islamic Republic of Comoros. It called upon the member states to use their influence with France collectively and individually so as to induce it to accelerate the negotiations with the Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros on the basis of the national unity and territorial integrity of that country.

Eastern and Central Europe:

90. The Conference reaffirmed the need to maintain and promote ties of friendship and cooperation between the Islamic world and the countries of Eastern and Central Europe on the basis of mutual interest and expressed the hope that strengthening of economic relations between Eastern and Western Europe would not affect the order of priorities in respect of economic cooperation and trade exchanges between those countries and Islamic countries, nor have a negative impact on the flow of financial resources extended by the advanced countries, whether Eastern or Western, for financing development in Muslim and Third world countries. It also expressed the hope that the States of Eastern and Western Europe and other States respect and protect the Islamic identity of the Muslim communities and/or Muslim minorities living in their countries and their right to practice freely their language, religion and culture.

91. It called on the Secretary General to visit the region from time to time to contact the Governments and members of the Muslim communities to ascertain their conditions and enlighten them about the OIC. It also requested that the IDB may in association with international/regional financial institutions draw up a study of the economic circumstances of the region, Western concerns and interests, and the implications for the Muslim countries.

Security and Solidarity:

92. The Conference reiterated that the security of each Muslim country is the concern of all Islamic countries. It firmly resolved to strengthen the security of member states, through cooperation and solidarity among Islamic countries, in accordance with the objectives and principles of the Charters of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and of the United Nations and as stipulated in the Dakar Declaration. It also reaffirmed the permanent and

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full sovereignty of the Islamic countries and peoples as well as the other States and peoples of the world, over their natural resources and economic activities. It expressed the resolve of the member states to safeguard and strengthen Islamic values in all areas of life, specially those relating to solidarity and mutual respect.

93. It reiterated the resolve of member states to encourage, wherever appropriate, the initiation of confidence and security building measures, bilaterally or at the sub-regional levels in conformity with the provisions and principles contained in the Dakar Declaration. It called on the member states and the Inter-governmental Experts Group on the Security and Solidarity of Islamic States to draw up and formulate specific proposals on confidence-building measures and submit them to the Inter-governmental Experts Group.

94. The Conference recognized anew that small States are particularly vulnerable to external threats and acts of interference in their internal affairs. It called upon the member states to provide assistance, when requested by small member states, for the strengthening of their security in accordance with the principles and objectives of the Charter of the OIC.

95. The Conference expressed deep regret and concern at the bloody coup attempt which was carried out by mercenaries against the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros in September 1995. It expressed deep thanks to the international community, the UN and other regional and international organizations which immediately condemned the coup attempt. It expressed special thanks to the Republic of France for its quick intervention to put down the coup attempt and restore stability and security to the Republic of the Comoros.

Disarmament:

96. The Conference called for the elimination of all weapons of mass destruction notably nuclear weapons with a view to creating a world free of such weapons and for the intensification of efforts aimed at finding a solution to disarmament issues as a whole, particularly the elimination of nuclear weapons. It also emphasized the need to conduct negotiations within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament according to the priorities specified in the Plan of Action of the Final Document of the Tenth UN General Assembly Special Session. It also emphasized that all States have an inalienable right to develop their programmes for peaceful uses of nuclear energy for their economic and social development and that all States are entitled to have access to the technology and equipment needed for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

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97. It called upon all States, particularly the States of the regions concerned, to respond positively to proposals for the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in Africa, the Middle East, South Asia and South East Asia and requested all member states to cooperate at the United Nations and other relevant international fora to promote the establishment of such Nuclear Weapon Free Zones. It affirmed the resolve of the Member States to take measures to preclude the proliferation of nuclear weapons, on a global and non-discriminatory basis.

98. The Conference welcomed the adoption by the OAU, on 23/6/1995, of the BLENDABA agreement concerning the establishment of a nuclear-weapons Free zone in Africa. It welcomed anew the decision of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to make the region of South East Asia a nuclear-weapons free zone. It welcomed, in this respect the proposals submitted by the Islamic republic of Pakistan to keep South Asia a nuclear-weapons free zone, including a proposal to conduct five-member consultations to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region.

99. On the Middle East, the Conference urged all States, specially nuclear-weapons States, to exercise pressure on Israel so as to sign the Nuclear-arms Non-Proliferation Treaty. It requested the Security Council and the international community to commit Israel to comply with the UN resolutions, specially Security council resolution 487 (1981); join the Nuclear-arms Non-Proliferation Treaty; implement the decisions of the International Atomic energy Agency to subject all Israeli facilities to the comprehensive system of guarantees of the IAEA; the necessity of Israel's renouncing of nuclear armament and its submitting of a complete statement of its arsenal of nuclear weapons and materials to the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency. This is considered as a necessary step towards establishing a zone free of weapons of mass-destruction, namely nuclear weapons in the Middle East which is an essential matter for establishing a comprehensive and just peace in the region.

100. It requested the members of the Conference on Disarmament to work urgently towards an agreement on an international convention to assure non-nuclear weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons and to explore all additional means to provide effective assurances to Non-Nuclear Weapon States in the global or regional context. It also urged all States especially the nuclear weapons states to engage in serious negotiations in competent international fora for the early conclusion of a comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

101. It recognized the need for enhancing regional security and stability through the settlement of outstanding disputes and the establishment of equitable and verifiable balance of armaments at lower levels. It called

on the international community and concerned States to take measures that lessen international and regional tensions and lead to achieving a permanent and just solution to existing disputes and conflicts and facilitating the adoption of concrete measures to disarmament and arms control.

102. The Conference expressed its deep concern over the consequences of the use of anti-personnel mines on the security of civilian populations and their economic development and took note with interest of the commitment of international humanitarian organizations, especially the International Committee of the Red Cross to the total elimination of anti-personnel mines. It urged the International Community, particularly the developed countries to provide substantial assistance for the removal of anti-personnel mines and to ensure access by all states, especially mine stricken states, to advanced material, equipment and technology as well as to ensure the removal of all existing restrictions in this regard.

Consultation and Coordination among Member States:

103. The Conference called upon member states to observe the principles of good neighbourliness, and to prevent the use of their territories or government bodies by individuals or groups bent on doing harm to other member states. It decided that no movement exploiting the noble Islamic religion should be allowed to carry out any hostile activity against any Member State.

104. It emphasized the necessity of strengthening coordination among the member states to control all images and forms of the phenomenon of terrorism, including intellectual terrorism and extremism. It stressed the need to continue to strengthen cooperation and coordination among member states at all levels, and to deepen their consultation so as to remove all causes of dissension and promote understanding among them.

Islamic Solidarity with the Peoples of the Sahel:

105. The Conference expressed its appreciation of the efforts made by the OIC General Secretariat, CILSS and the IDB for the elaboration and finalization of the OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme for the Sahel. It reaffirmed the necessity to devote greater attention to the speedy implementation of the Special OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme for the Sahelian populations. It welcomed the offer made by the State of Kuwait to host the meeting of the Expert Group charged with the task of studying the new programme and expressed its hope that this meeting could be held as soon as possible.

Critical Economic Situation in Africa:

106. The Conference welcomed the efforts made by the African countries towards their economic recovery and development in conformity with the Treaty of Abuja concluded in 1991 establishing the African Economic Community aimed at progressive economic integration of Africa. It stressed the importance of the successful implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990's and calls upon the international community to fulfil its commitments on the basis of the principle of shared responsibility and full partnership with Africa.

Reparations for damages from colonialism:

107. The Conference reaffirmed its condemnation of colonialism, in all its forms, as an act of aggression which violates all international conventions and principles of international law. It recognized that the effects of colonialism have impeded economic and social development plans and programmes in the developing countries and continue to impede their development and progress. It also reaffirmed the right of all the member states, without exceptions, which suffered under the yoke of colonialism, to obtain fair compensation for the human and material losses they have suffered as a result of colonialism or external invasion. It affirmed the right of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahirya for reparations for all the human and material losses it has sustained as a result of the period of Italian invasion and colonization of the Libyan territories. It also affirmed the right of all the member states, without exceptions, which suffered under colonialism, to recover their cultural property which was looted during the period of colonialism, including antiquities, masterpieces, manuscripts and historical documents. It called on the member states to coordinate among themselves for this end in collaboration with ISESCO. It also called on the international community to take the necessary procedures so that the phenomenon of colonialism may not be repeated and that remaining colonialism should be eliminated.

Sudan:

108. The Conference reaffirmed its complete solidarity with Sudan in confronting hostile designs, and defending its unity, territorial integrity and stability. It commended Sudan's continued efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the problem of Southern Sudan through negotiations and dialogue between various Sudanese parties for achieving its stability and national development. It expressed deep appreciation to the member states which support Sudan's efforts to safeguard its unity, national security and cultural heritage.

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Niger:

109. The Conference expressed satisfaction at the signing of the Peace Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Niger and the Organization of Armed Assistance. It commended the efforts exerted by mediating countries for their important contribution to the conclusion of this Agreement. It requested member states, the General Secretariat of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and the other Islamic Institutions to provide Niger with the necessary assistance to enable it to consolidate its national unity and achieve its regional developmental objectives within the framework of the implementation of the above-mentioned Agreement.

Mali:

110. The Conference requested member states and Islamic institutions to provide necessary financial assistance for the emergency programmes and projects for ensuring the return of the refugees, their rehabilitation and the social, economic and cultural development of the Northern Regions of Mali and recommended that the Organization and its financial institutions actively support the implementation of the medium and long term development strategy and of the emergency programme in the regions of Kidal, Gao and Timbuctu.

Right to use of science and technology:

111. The Conference affirmed the inalienable right of the Islamic Ummah to develop, acquire and make use of science and technology for progress in economic, social and cultural fields. It called upon industrialized States to facilitate the transfer of technology to developing countries and remove the restrictions hindering this process. It called upon member states to strengthen cooperation among themselves in the fields of science and technology for peaceful purposes, especially in the framework of the Standing Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation.

Dumping of Toxic Wastes:

112. The Conference affirmed that the dumping of toxic and nuclear wastes in member states is a crime against humanity. It called upon all States which produce dangerous and toxic waste to take all the measures necessary for treating and recycling this waste in their own countries. It urged all the member states to ban all the illegal trans-border movements of dangerous and toxic waste, transported without the necessary safeguards and the prior consent of the importing country.

Refugees:

113. The Conference expressed its deep appreciation to countries of asylum for their generous assistance to refugees irrespective of their critical economic situation as well as presence of large number of displaced persons. It reaffirmed its concern for the security, stability and infrastructure of those Islamic countries whose economic and social development is seriously affected by the presence of refugees.

114. It called on member states, to coordinate their action at international level with a view to determining the main causes behind the exodus of refugees to Islamic and other countries and strive, in cooperation with the UNHCR, to enable those refugees to return to their homes whenever circumstances permit. It requested the General Secretariat to prepare a survey regarding the number and the situation of the refugees in the Islamic World in coordination with the UNHCR.

115. It urged member states and the Islamic Development Bank to increase their assistance to the Islamic countries sheltering refugees given the economic and social difficulties caused by the presence of such refugees. It called on member states to cooperate with the UNHCR to end the downward trend of assistance to refugees and to secure additional resources to alleviate the suffering of those refugees in Islamic countries.

Assistance to the Republic of Sudan to shelter refugees and displaced persons:

116. The Conference urged international donors to extend assistance commensurate with the number of the refugees in the Sudan, and also to help in their voluntary repatriation. It invited the Islamic Development Bank to extend financial assistance so as to support the efforts of the Government of the Sudan aimed at resettling returning Sudanese refugees in the areas liberated from the hold of the rebellious movement as well as to provide shelter to the displaced persons who migrated to the North due to the military operations conducted by the rebellious movement.

Muslim Communities and Minorities:

117. The Conference urged member states to keep paying due attention to the Muslim communities and minorities living in Non-OIC member states, to play an effective role in protecting them, and to do their utmost to induce the countries where they live to recognize their right to full citizenship, grant them all their civil and religious rights and treat them equitably in accordance with the principles of human rights and fundamental freedoms stipulated in international instruments and treaties.

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118. It called upon the OIC member states to carry out individual and collective contacts with Governments of non-OIC-member states concerned so as to ensure the safety, dignity and integrity for the values and rights of the Muslim communities and minorities and further called upon the member states to consult among themselves about action to be taken in cases of violation, suppression, aggression and occupation against Muslim communities and minorities.

119. It decided to form an open-ended Inter-governmental Group of Experts which is to commence work in 1996 to consider the situation of Muslim Communities and Minorities in Non-member states of the Organization of the Islamic Conference as well as to consider the problems faced by these communities and minorities so as to find appropriate solutions within the framework of respect for the sovereignty of the states in which they live.

120. It noted with deep concern that human rights including the freedoms of worship and education, of the Turkish Muslim Minority in Western Thrace, guaranteed under international treaties, continue to be denied and violated and urged that all their rights and freedoms, individual and collective, be fully respected.

Muslims in Southern Philippines:

121. The Conference reaffirmed the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences on solidarity with the Muslims in Southern Philippines in their just struggle for the realization of their legitimate aspirations within the framework of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Philippines.

122. It paid tributes to the spirit of good will and understanding which prevailed at the rounds of the Formal Peace Talks and the meetings of the various committees held between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front with the participation of the Ministerial Committee of the Six and the OIC Secretary General which paved the way for the establishment of a constructive dialogue that facilitated the achievement of understanding and agreement on most of the issues under discussion. It welcomed the substantial progress so far achieved in the negotiation between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front with the participation of the Ministerial Committee of the Six and the OIC Secretary General.

123. It called upon the Philippines Government and the Moro National Liberation Front to do their utmost in consolidating the progress achieved so far towards attainment of a just and comprehensive political solution for the problem of the Muslims in Southern Philippines in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Tripoli Agreement.

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124. It expressed its appreciation for the commendable efforts being exerted by the Republic of Indonesia under the wise guidance and patronage of H.E. President Soeharto as well as the Chairman of the OIC Ministerial Committee of the Six. It also paid tribute to the role of the Government of the Great Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in achieving the Tripoli Agreement on 23 December 1976.

Legal Affairs:

125. The Conference urged the member states to expeditously finalize the ratification procedures of agreements concluded under the auspices of the OIC aimed at expanding cooperation among member states with regard to the peaceful settlement of conflicts among member states. The Conference also urged member states to expedite the ratification of the Statute of the International Islamic Court of Justice so as to acquire the quorum needed for the Court to start its proceedings.

With respect to human rights, the Conference decided that the Committee of Experts pursue its follow up meetings on the Cairo Declaration of human rights in Islam which emphasises the need and importance of coordination and cooperation among member states in the field of human rights.

Concerning the fight against international terrorism, the Conference called for follow up of the Code of Conduct pertaining to the fight against international terrorism through publications and more cooperation between member states and the General Secretariat. The Conference also called upon member states to support the holding of an international Conference within the framework of the United Nations in a bid to define terrorism and distinguish it from people's liberation struggle.

Information Affairs:

126. The Conference took note of the resolutions of the Third Islamic Conference of Information Ministers which will be submitted to the next session of COMIAC for appropriate decision and expressed thanks to the government of the Republic of Senegal for offering to host the fourth Islamic Conference of Information Ministers.

127. The Conference approved the 1995-96 Action Programme submitted by the General Secretariat and drawn from the Information Plan, this programme having to be implemented in accordance with the recommendations of the 4th Session of COMIAC.

128. The Conference urged member states to extend support to the International Islamic News Agency by providing it with additional editorial and technical staff so that it may achieve its objectives in the service of Islamic information.

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129. The Conference called on the concerned member states to regularly settle their full contributions to the annual budget of the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization and arrange for the early settlement of their arrears so that the Organisation can implement the programmes and projects it has adopted and achieve the objectives of the Islamic Ummah in the service of Dawah and Islamic information.

Nigeria:

130. The Conference expressed its concern over the ongoing campaign against the Federal Republic of Nigeria. It called for a meaningful dialogue with the Government of this country in order to avoid any further escalation. It also urged the present Administration in Nigeria to adhere to the Transition Programme it has announced, to return the country to democratic civilian Government.

Mozambique:

131. The Conference noted with satisfaction that Mozambique has opened a new chapter in its history with the holding of its first multiparty general elections in October last year, which represents an important step for peace, stability and development in that country, and requested the member states and Islamic Institutions to provide necessary financial assistance for the reconstruction and rehabilitation programmes of Mozambique, particularly those for ensuring the social reintegration of returnees and internal displaced peoples, and demobilized soldiers.

C. ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY:

132. The Conference urged member states to pursue efforts aimed at strengthening economic cooperation among them so as to maximize the complementarities in their economies and avoid further marginalization.

133. The Conference reiterated the need to take serious steps to ensure economic integration among OIC member states with the ultimate objectives of establishing an Islamic Common Market or any other form of economic integration, on a step by step and regional basis, among OIC Member Countries in order to help overcome difficulties arising from the formation of global economic groupings.

134. The Conference recognized that the effective implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements would necessitate adjustments in the economic and administrative structures of the member states in order to safeguard their interest and to take maximum advantage from the opportunities to be created thereby.

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135. The Conference called on developed countries to create a more practical, equitable and transparent environment enabling developing countries to implement their structural adjustment programmes to enable them to achieve sustainable development.

136. The Conference appealed to the European Union to honour its commitments towards its trade partners, members of the OIC.

137. The Conference stressed the importance of increasing Official Development Assistance (ODA) granted by the developed countries in favour of the developing countries in general and least developed countries in particular.

138. The Conference recognized the necessity of responding to the need of land-locked and transit countries so as to allow them to develop their transport infrastructures.

139. The Conference appealed to the international community and particularly to the developed countries to fully and efficiently implement the 1990 Plan of Action regarding least developed and land-locked countries and the provisions of other resolutions, in particular those contained in UNCTAD VIII.

140. The Conference declared that the complete eradication of poverty in all member states before the end of the next decade constitutes a common objective of the OIC.

141. The Conference appealed to developed countries to increase their aid programme in order to attain 0.7% of the GDP in official aid development, as fixed by the UN.

142. The Conference urged the least developed countries and low-income countries to play in a more coordinative manner, a more active role in the international fora dealing with the eradication of poverty.

143. The Conference appealed to international creditors to continue adopting every necessary measure to cut down the debt of member states in particular, through staggered settlement of debts, deferred amortization, reduced or favourable interest rates and swapping debts for various development projects.

144. The Conference expressed its gratitude to member states which have already responded formally in this regard and appeals to member states to continue the transfer of capital through grants and concessionary loans to member states, especially to the least developed, land-locked and/or Sahelian countries.

145. The Conference hailed the efforts made by the Palestinian Liberation Organisation in the occupied Palestinian regions for the reconstruction of what had been destroyed under Israeli occupation, as well as the efforts exerted to rebuild and consolidate the Palestinian national economy made by its National Authority.

146. The Conference urged all member states and those institutions concerned to expedite the extension of the envisaged necessary assistance to help the Palestinian people establish their national economy and consolidate their national institutions inorder to establish their independent State with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its Capital.

147. The Conference launched an urgent appeal to member states and the International Organizations to also extend every assistance to the Lebanese populations in South Lebanon and Western Bekka which are daily and permanently exposed to Israeli aggression causing material losses and resulting in social hardships which paralyse almost permanently, the economic activities of the region.

148. The Conference urged the International Community to extend assistance to member states struck by drought and natural disasters.

149. The Conference appealed to member states and OIC institutions to extend assistance to OIC countries of Inter-Governmental Authority for Development and Drought Control (IGADD) and the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) to enable them to overcome the difficult situation which is threatening them and to extend the same assistance to the Republic of Guinea from where numerous waterways take their source in the campaign against drought.

150. The Conference emphasized the need to urgently implement the new Plan of Action to strengthen economic and commercial cooperation, in compliance with the principles and operational modalities of the strategy and the procedures set forth in its chapter on follow-up and implementation.

151. The Conference called upon member states which have not yet signed and/or ratified the agreement in the field of economic cooperation to do so as soon as possible.

152. The Conference expressed its deep appreciation for the devotion and efficiency with which the President of the IDB and his Assistant are ensuring the good functioning of the institution which continues to make invaluable contributions to the development and progress of Muslim populations.

153. The Conference requested member states to take into account environmental consideration in their development policies.

154. The Conference appealed to the developed countries to honour their commitments in current international agreements with regard to the transfer of financial resources and environmentally sound technologies to developing countries.

155. The Conference reaffirmed the determination of the member states to work for the strengthening of international cooperation with a view to seeking solutions to global environmental problems.

156. The Conference requested OIC member states to continue to extend assistance to the PLO and the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan and the Arab citizens in the Lebanese occupied territories in the drawing up of plans deemed necessary for environmental consideration within these territories.

157. The Conference called for greater coordination among member states, other States and World Health Organization to combat epidemic diseases which affect human, animal resources and natural life.

158. The Conference also called for greater cooperation among member states in combatting drug abuse, phychotropic substances and their illegal production, processing and trafficking.

159. The Conference stressed the need and importance for member states to preserve the basic necessities of sustainable development and to assess and monitor on a continuous basis their environmental problems and issues including health.

D. CULTURAL AFFAIRS:

160. The Conference noted with appreciation the Reports of the Secretary General on Islamic Universities and Islamic Cultural Institutes and Centres and endorsed the recommendations which were adopted by the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs. It expressed deep concern that most of these institutions are facing problems due to lack of financial, material and other support from member states. It urged the member states, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Islamic Development Bank and other Islamic institutions to extend financial and material support to these Universities, Centres and Institutions, specially as they contribute to human resources development essentially required for any developmental activity of the Islamic Ummah.

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161. The Conference commended the recommendations made by the Symposium of Inter-governmental Experts on the Role of Women in the Development of Muslim Society, held in Tehran in April 1995, and the Draft Declaration prepared by the Symposium on the Role of Women in the Development of Society. It decided to refer these recommendations to the Islamic Fiqh Academy for consideration and making observations thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers through the General Secretariat. The Conference commended also the excellent contribution of the Organization to the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Bejing as well as the good preparation and coordination among the OIC member states during the World Conference and the active participation of the General Secretariat during the Conference.

162. The Conference appealed to the member states to integrate the Cultural Strategy within their cultural and educational projects.

163. The Conference noted with appreciation the legal study prepared by the General Secretariat concerning the conclusion of an international legal document to ensure respect for Islamic values and holy places.

164. The Conference expressed its deep concern over the aggression of the Muslims and against their holy places in Palestine, India, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Jammu and Kashmir and in many other places in the world. It also strongly condemned the repeated aggression by the Zionists on the Ibrahimi Mosque and other Islamic sanctuaries in Palestine, and renewed its call upon the Government of India to reconstruct the Babri Mosque at its original site.

165. The Conference also took note with appreciation the reports submitted by the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), and the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent.

166. The Conference welcomed the initiative of His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ibn Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz, Chairman of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation to organize football matches between teams from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Sarajevo International Team on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the OIC whose proceeds will go to the support of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

167. The Conference expressed its profound appreciation for the work completed by the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture, the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage and the Islamic Fiqh Academy.

168. The Conference took note of the Report of the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund on the activities of the Fund and its Waqf. It

expressed its appreciation to the member states which have made generous donations to the Islamic Solidarity Fund and its Waqf. It requested all member states to commit themselves by extending annual voluntary donations to the Fund, each according to its ability, to enable the Fund to cover the deficit of its annual budget. It called on all member states to contribute towards the capital of the Waqf of Islamic Solidarity Fund.

E. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS:

169. The Conference adopted the budgets of the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs for the year 1995-96 and urged member states to pay their contributions to these budgets. It expressed its deep concern over the critical financial situation of the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs resulting from the accumulation of arrears of contributions to these budgets. It called upon member states to settle their arrears in order to enable these institutions to fulfill their tasks.

Closing Session:

170. His Excellency Kozo Zoumanigui, Minister in the President's Office incharge of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Guinea and Chairman of the Conference, thanked the participating delegations for the spirit of constructive cooperation and for their precious contribution towards the success of the Conference.

Vote of Thanks:

171. His Excellency Moustapha Niasse, Minister of State, Minister of Foreign Affairs and of Senegalese Expatriates, of the Republic of Senegal expressed, on behalf of the participating delegations profound thanks and gratitude to His Excellency General Lansana Conté, President of the Republic of Guinea and the Government and people of Guinea for the generous hospitality extended to the delegations and for the excellent arrangements which greatly contributed to the success of the Conference. He also expressed his appreciation to the Chairman of the Conference for his farsightedness and competence in conducting the deliberations of the Conference, which has been a success.

172. His Excellency General Lansana Conté, President of the Republic of Guinea graced with his presence, the closing ceremony of the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers. In the speech he delivered on this occasion he expressed thanks to the different delegations who made an invaluable contribution to the success of the Conference. His Excellency General Lansana Conté reiterated the commitment of the Republic of Guinea to make every effort so that the decisions of the Conakry Conference will be translated into concrete action for the benefit of the entire Ummah.

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173. The Conference decided to address a Special Motion of Thanks to His Excellency General Lansana Conté, President of the Republic of Guinea for the solicitude he has shown to the participants and for his effective presence at the opening and closing sessions of the Conference.

Issued in Conakry,
20 Rajab 1416H
December 12, 1995

DECLARATION
ON THE
OIC ACTION PROGRAM TO IMPLEMENT PEACE AGREEMENT FOR BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

The Twenty-Third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea from 17-20 Rajab 1416H (9 to 12 December 1995),

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the OIC which emphasize the commitment of Islamic Ummah to the consolidation of international peace and security;

Reaffirming all OIC resolutions and declarations relating to the just struggle of the Bosnian people for peace, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, particularly the resolution adopted by this conference;

Noting the acceptance of the Dayton Peace Agreement by the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina inspired by the necessity of reaching a peaceful solution, despite the fact that the Agreement does not fully satisfy the just aspirations of the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

Reiterating the imperative need for the full and effective implementation of all the components and provisions of the Dayton Peace Agreement;

Underlining the obligations of the international community, particularly members of the International Contact Group on Bosnia-Herzegovina and the United Nations Security Council in implementing the Peace Agreement;

Continuing its total support to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

Welcoming the establishment of the Assistance Mobilization Group for Bosnia-Herzegovina at the meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia-Herzegovina and OIC Troop Contributing countries to UNPROFOR attended by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Defence at Kuala Lumpur on 14 September, 1995, following the meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia-Herzegovina which was held at Geneva on 21 July, 1995.

Taking note of the Chairman's Report of the first and second meetings of the Assistance Mobilization Group held at Istanbul on 7-8 October, 1995 and at Tehran on 28-29, November, 1995.

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Aiming at better mobilizing and coordinating OIC efforts in assisting and cooperating with the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

The Ministers decided to adopt the OIC Action Programme to assist in implementing the Peace Agreement for the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, including, inter alia the following actions:

1. Strongly supporting the full and effective implementation of all the components and provisions of the Peace Agreement initialled in Dayton, USA, thereby ensuring effective sovereignty and integrity of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

2. Contributing substantially, troops to the Implementation Force and financial resources for that purpose;

3. Continuing to provide military assistance to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in the spirit of the Dayton Agreement and the Security Council Resolution of 22 November, 1995 in order to build up its defence capabilities and industries, aimed at establishing a military balance and to ensure deterrence against any future aggression;

4. Urgently providing relief, especially shelter and housing to refugees, returnees and displaced persons, as well as assistance in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the economy of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, thus helping the return of refugees, particularly skilled people;

5. Establishing a legal framework - establishment of diplomatic relations and bilateral agreements - between the OIC member countries and the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to create the basis of a partnership in the political, economic, cultural and other areas between the parties concerned;

6. Extending assistance to the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in different fields on a bilateral, multilateral and commercial basis including bilateral agreements with the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

7. Providing assistance to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in its case against "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia" (Serbia and Montenegro) at the International Court of Justice (ICJ), in the process of succession of states of former Yugoslavia in providing legal and financial support for the prosecution of war criminals indicted by the War Crimes Tribunal and in ensuring that the assets of former Yugoslavia remain frozen until a final settlement on the succession.

8. Better mobilizing and coordinating all efforts of the OIC countries for the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and pursuing the OIC assistance and cooperative efforts bilaterally, through the institutions of the OIC and particularly through supporting the Assistance Mobilization Group for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

9. Establishing an OIC Programme for Reconstruction and Development for the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in line with the Resolution No. 6/7-P(IS) adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit, held in Casablanca, 13 - 15 December 1994.

10. Condemning strongly the repressive and discriminatory measures taken by Serbia and Montenegro against the Bosnian Muslims of the Sanjak resulting in large scale violations of their human, political and national rights.

11. Calling for effective measures by the international community of the protection of the fundamental rights of the Bosnian Muslims of the Sanjak.

Annex II

REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS ON POLITICAL, MUSLIM MINORITIES & COMMUNITIES, LEGAL AND INFORMATION AFFAIRS

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REPORT
OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE POLITICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE TWENTY-THIRD ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS
(SESSION OF PEACE, SOLIDARITY AND TOLERANCE)
CONAKRY, REPUBLIC OF GUINEA
17-20 RAJAB 1416H (9-12 DECEMBER, 1995)

The Political Committee of the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance) met in Conakry, Republic of Guinea from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995).

2. His Excellency Ambassador, Elhadj Mamadou Saliou Sylla, Head of the Delegation of the Republic of Guinea to the Political Committee chaired the meeting.

3. The other members of the Bureau of the Political Affairs Committee were:

Vice-Chairmen: - Republic of Azerbaijan
- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- State of Palestine

Rapporteur : - Kingdom of Morocco.

4. The General Secretariat was represented by H.E. Ambassador Ibrahim Bakr, Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs.

5. The Committee reviewed the draft resolutions on political, Muslim communities and minorities, information and legal issues approved by the meeting of Senior Officials held in Jeddah from 28 to 31 October, 1995 assigned by the Plenary to the Political Affairs Committee. These include draft resolutions on agenda items from No. 9 to No. 42.

6. After careful consideration, the Political Committee finalized the draft resolutions for consideration and adoption by the Plenary. Some delegations expressed reservations which were noted by the General Secretariat.

7. The Committee expressed its appreciation to the Chairman for the able manner in which he steered the meeting.

8. The Chairman expressed his thanks to all members of the Committee for their fruitful cooperation and successful deliberations characterized by the true spirit of Islam.

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9. The Political Committee presents this report to the Plenary Session for consideration and appropriate decision.

Ambassador, Elhadj Mamadou Saliou Sylla
Chairman of the
Political Affairs Committee

RESOLUTION NO.1/23-P
ON THE
QUESTION OF PALESTINE AND THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9 to 12 December, 1995),

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on the Cause of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict contained in Document No. (ICFM/23-95/PAL/D.1);

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Pursuant to the resolutions of the Islamic Conferences on the Cause of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict;

Recalling all the resolutions issued by the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Organization of African Unity and the League of Arab States on the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the other occupied Arab territories;

Reaffirming the UN Security Council Resolution No.681 and 904 (1994) on the carnage in Al-Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron and the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 relative to the Protection of Civilian Population in times of war to the Palestinian People in the occupied Palestinian territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

Recalling resolutions 465, 476 and 478 of the Security Council on the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the Islamic resolutions emphasizing that the Question of Al-Quds Al-Sharif constitutes the heart of the Palestine issue which is the prime cause of all Muslims and the core of the Arab-Israeli Conflict, and that a just and comprehensive peace will only be achieved with the return of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif to Palestinian sovereignty as capital of the State of Palestine;

Reaffirming the need for all states of the world, including their executive, legislative and other institutions, to abide by and respect the resolutions of the Security Council on the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

Reaffirming that the Palestine Cause is the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and that Israel's continued occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories, its annexation of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the Syrian Golan, its continued denial of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people and its disrespect for the human rights of the Palestinians constitute a flagrant violation of the relevant resolutions of the international legitimacy and the principles of international law as well as the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights;

Proceeding from Islamic and international resolutions which reaffirm the legitimacy of the struggle waged by the Palestinian people under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, their sole legitimate rèpresentative, for the re-establishment of their sovereignty over their land, and the exercise of their inalienable national rights;

Expressing deep concern at Israel's continuing terrorist and repressive measures and practices, its continued policy of deportation and mass reprisal against Palestinian and Arab citizens in all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, its siege of the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the desecration of the holy Shrines;

Condemning the continuous Israeli aggression against Southern Lebanon and Western Beqa'a and emphasizing that the Israeli policies, practices and expansionist plans, do not only threaten the Arab states and the peace process but also threaten the Islamic countries and endanger international peace and security;

Following with interest the peace efforts being exerted for the achievement of a just and comprehensive solution for the Question of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of UN Security Council Resolutions Nos. 242 and 338 and 425 and of the formula of "land for peace", and the legitimate national and political rights of the Palestinian people;

Commending the efforts made by the Palestine Liberation Organisation throughout the occupied Palestinian territories, for the reconstruction of what had been destroyed by the Israeli occupation, as well as the efforts exerted by its National Authority for the rehabilitation of the Palestinian national economy and its consolidation, on the way to the establishment of the Palestinian State and the importance of supporting these efforts by all possible ways and means;

1. Reaffirms all the resolutions of the Islamic Conferences relating to the Palestine Cause and the Arab-Israeli Conflict.

2. Reaffirms that a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved without a full and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from all Palestinian and Arab territories occupied since 1967, including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the occupied Syrian Golan and the occupied Lebanese territories.

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3. Reaffrirms also that the Palestine cause is the prime cause of all Muslims, and expresses its solidarity with the Palestine Liberation Organisation in its just struggle for removing the effects of Israeli occupation and building the Palestinian national institutions on the land of Palestine, with a view to fulfilling the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return, to self-determaination and to the establishment of their independent State on their national soil, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

4. Calls on Member States to further strengthen their solidarity with the Palestinian people, and support their just and legitimate struggle for ending Israeli occupation and achieving all their goals of freedom and independence and to continue supporting the PLO in its negotiations for the full withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and for the guarantee of the transfer of all powers and responsibilities in the occupied Palesitnian territories including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, to the Palestinian National Authority.

5. Welcomes the conclusion of the agreement for the implementation of the second stage of the Israel-Palestinian Declaration of Principles, as an important step towards the achievement of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people and the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region, and calls for commitment to the speedy implementation of its entire provisions, including the expansion of the Palestinian self-rule area, the release of the Palestinian detainees, the completion of the Palestinian election, honouring the chronological programme of the agreement, .

6. Expresses its support and backing for the peace process in the Middle East, which is aimed at bringing about a just and comprehensive solution to the Question of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict and welcomes the agreements concluded within the framework of the peace process. It believes that the success of the peace process in the Middle East hinges on the fulfillment of the following principles and basic premises:

First

It being based on the resolutions of international legality, including resolutions 242, 338 and 425 of the Security Council, and the obligation to implement them in accordance with the Arab and international understanding of these resolutions, which guarantee full Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Palestinian territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif as well as from the occupied Syrian Golan to the lines of 4 June 1967 and the occupied Lebanese territories, and on the basis of the formula "land for peace"; of the legitimate national and political rights of the Palestinian people, and of the need to enable them to exercise their right of return in conformity with the General Assembly resolution 194.

Second

Applicability of Security Council resolution 242 to all Arab occupied territories including the Palestinian territories.

Third

The fact that Al-Quds is the heart of the Palestine question which, in turn, is the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Al-Quds is an integral part of the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967 and to it apply all the provisions applicable to the other occupied territories under the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and General Assembly, and the necessity of its return to Palestinian sovereignty as capital of the State of Palestine, as a guarantee for peace and security in the region.

Fourth

Dismantling the settlements already established in the occupied territories as they are illegal under the international resolutions including resolution 465 of the Security Council, and cessation of the settling of Jews in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the Syrian Golan, combined with the necessity of providing international guarantees to that effect.

Fifth

The need to secure international protection for the Palestinian people in the Occupied territories, to implement the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and the Hague Treaty of 1907, to halt all Israel's terrorist and repressive practices against the Palestinian people, to release all Palestinian detainees in the Occupied territories, to halt the expropriation and attempted transformation of Islamic and Christian properties and waqfs, to halt the continuing violations of Islamic and Christian holy places and to halt the excavations which endanger these shrines.

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7. Urges all States and concerned parties to extend their support to the international programme on economic, social and cultural developments in the occupied Palestinian territories to avail the Palestinian people of the necessary approved assistance for the reconstruction of its national economy and to back up its national institutions and enable it to establish its independent State with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

8. Reaffirms the continued and constant responsibility of the United Nations vis-a-vis the Palestine question until a just and comprehensive solution to all its aspects is achieved securing an end to occupation and the exercise, by the Palestinian people, of their inalienable national rights, and Calls for a more effective participation of the United Nations in promoting the success of the peace process in the Middle East.

9. Urges the international community and particularly the permanent members of the UN Security Council to compel Israel to implement the resolutions of the international legitimacy without delay or procrastination, and to desist from violating the principles of international law and abide by the principles of international legitimacy.

10. Invites all States of the world to refrain from having any dealings with the Israeli occupation authorities which might in any way be interpreted by those authorities, as an implicit recognition of the "fait accompli" they have imposed by the declaration of Al-Quds as the capital of Israel. In this context, it should be proper to recall the UN Security Council Resolutions No. 465,476 and 478 which rule that the Israeli measures relating to the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif are null and void and affirm that all the legislative, administrative and settlement measures aiming at changing the legal status of the Holy City are null and void, have no legal effects whatsoever and are a violation of international agreements, conventions and norms.

11. Strongly deplores the resolution of the American Congress on the transfer of the US Embassy to the City of Al-Quds and considers it a provocation of the feelings of the Muslim world; a flagrant disregard of the Islamic and Christian sanctities; and a serious violation of all international resolutions on the City of Al-Quds, including Security Council Resolution No. 478 as well as a threat to destroy the peace process and calls upon the US Administration not to respond to this resolution of the Congress in harmony with its responsibilities as a sponsor of the peace process.

12. Calls for abiding by the provisions of the Islamic Boycott against Israel and to consider the legislation, rules and provisions governing the Boycott "the General Principles of the Boycott, Islamic law, the Internal Regulations and Sessional Meetings of the Regional Offices" as part of their own-current national legislations, and set up the necessary offices and mechanisms to serve that end.

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13. Strongly condemns Israel's persistence in its aggressive scheme to partition the Ibrahimi Mosque Enclosure in the occupied city of Al-Khalil, which aims at seizing and judaizing most of it and establishing a Jewish synagogue on its site. It calls on the Member States to continue their coordination and intensive efforts in the various international fora to prevent the implementation of this scheme and preserve the Ibrahimi Enclosure as a mosque solely for Muslims as it has been through the ages. It warns that any slackness in these efforts, would encourage Israel to undermine the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and other Islamic and Christian shrines, which would affect the peace process. It also invites them to endeavour to restore the old town in Al-Khalil and preserve the heritage and culture of this ancient city as well as settle Palestinian families therein in order to face Jewish settlement in the city. It further reaffirms that the Israeli forces redeployment outside the occupied West Bank cities must apply to all cities and not exclude Al-Khalil.

14. Strongly condemns the Israeli repressive measures and practices against the Palestinian citizens. Also strongly condemns Israel's expansionist settlement policy and regards all settlements established or to be established by Israel in Al-Quds Al-Sharif and in all other parts of the occupied Palestinian territories and the Syrian Golan as null and void in accordance with international legitimacy and appeals to all States to refrain from taking any steps that might facilitate the process of settlement in the Occupied territories; invites the Member States to request the UN Security Council to set up an international committee to supervise and monitor the prevention of the settlement process in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories.

15. Invites Member States to work within the framework of the United Nations and at the international institutions and fora for compelling Israel to release the detainees, bring back the deportees, put an end to the method of collective punishment, and desist from any works that would endanger life and the environment in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories.

16. Strongly condemns Israel's continuing occupation of Southern Lebanon and the Western Biqa'h region, its arbitrary practices and military acts of aggression against the Lebanese citizens and against the Palestinian refugees in their camps in Lebanon, calls upon the UN Security Council to take the necessary measures to put an immediate end to these acts of aggression and demands Israel's immediate, total and unconditional withdrawal from the Lebanese territory. It affirms its resolve to maintain the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon within its internationally recognized borders. Moreover, it stresses the necessity of implementing the UN Security Council resolutions concerning Lebanon and in particular Resolution

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No.425 (1978) and expresses its appreciation for the achievements of the Supreme Tripartite Arab Committee. It also calls on the international community to contribute to the International Fund for the Reconstruction of Lebanon.

17. Strongly condemns the policy of Israel in refusing to comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981), and in imposing its jurisdiction, its laws and its administration on the occupied Syrian Golan, as well as Israel's policies of annexation, establishment of settlements, expropriation of lands, diversion of water resources and imposition of Israeli nationality on Syrian citizens. It considers that all those measures are null and void, and constitute a violation of the rules and principles of international law, relating to occupation and war and particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949. It demands the complete withdrawal of Israel from the entire occupied Syrian Golan to the lines of 4 June 1967.

18. Calls on the international community and the Security Council to compel Israel to comply with U.N. Resolutions, particularly Security Council Resolution 487(1981), to accede to the treaty of Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to implement the resolutions of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) calling for the subjection of all Israeli Atomic facilities to the IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards System, to obtain Israel's renunciation of nuclear armament, and to submit a full report on its stockpile of nuclear weapons and ammunition to the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency as those steps are essential for the establishment of a zone free from weapons of mass destruction, and primarily nuclear weapons in the Middle East region, a fundamental factor for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

19. Calls on the Member States to coordinate their positions at all international fora in order to preserve the principled position of the Organiztion of the Islamic Conference on all the resolutions on the issue of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

20. Commends the efforts exerted by Al-Quds Committee, under the Chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco.

21. Reaffirms the continued responsibility of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) to carry on fulfilling the tasks assigned to it for the benefit of all the Palestinian citizens wherever they may be living, and calls upon the Member States to request the UN Secretary General to see to it that the Conciliation Committee undertakes in collaboration with the Relief Agency and the concerned states the preparation of a comprehensive inventory of Palestinian refugees and their property and come out with a

integrated conception for the settlement of their problems on the basis of UN Resolution No. 194.

22. Requests the Secretary General to take necessary measures for continuing and strengthening contacts and coordination on the Question of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict between the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the League of Arab States, the Organization of African Unity, the Non-Aligned Movement, the European Union, and the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies and expresses its appreciation for all the latter's supportive stands and assistance for the just struggle of the Palestinian people.

23. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO.2/23-P
ON THE CITY OF AL-QUDS AL-SHARIF

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9 to 12 December, 1995),

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, contained in Document No. (ICFM/23-95/PAL/D.2);

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference;

Pursuant to the Islamic resolutions which reaffirm that the issue of Al-Quds Al-Sharif forms the core of the Palestinian issue which is the foremost Islamic cause, and core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and that no comprehensive and just peace can be achieved without the return of Al-Quds Al-Sharif to the Palestinian sovereignty, as the capital of the State of Palestine;

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly and Security Council, in particular resolutions 465, 476 and 478 on the city of Al-Quds which consider as null and void the Israeli Law annexing Al-Quds and claiming it as the unified capital of Israel;

Amazed by the decision taken by the Senate and Congress of the United States of America to transfer the US Embasy to the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif; considering it to be a flagrant violation of the resolutions of the international legitimacy; and reafirming the need for all states of the world including their executive, legislative and other institutions; to respect and abide by the resolutions of the Security Council on the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

Expressing its deep concern at the escalation of Israel's acts of aggression on the Holy Places in the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and also over the deteriorating situation of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and all Islamic and Christian Holy Places, in particular the Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock as a result of the increasing judaization and settlement;

Expressing its full solidarity with the just struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, so as to enable it to face up to the forthcoming stage and firmly establish its National Authority on all the occupied Palestinian territories, including the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

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Reiterating Security Council's Resolution No. 681 which provides for the applicability of all the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention concerning the protection of civilians in times of war to the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

Following attentively the continued peace efforts for the achievement of a just and comprehensive settlement to the issue of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the legitimate national and political rights of the Palestinian people;

Commending the constant efforts made by the Al-Quds Committee under the Chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II, King of Morocco;

1. Reaffirms all the resolutions issued by the relevant Islamic Conferences including those adopted by the Third Islamic Summit Conference on Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the recommendations of Al-Quds Committe at its former sessions, in particular the recommendations adopted by its Fifteenth Session.

2. Invites the Contact Group charged with the affairs of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and constituted pursuant to the recommendation of the Fifteenth Session of Al-Quds Committee which was held in Ifran, Kingdom of Morocco on 16-17 January, 1995; to do its very best to get the resolution issued on Al-Quds Al-Sharif, by the current session of the UN General Assembly, in such a manner that is commensurate with the nature of the recent conditions and developments as well as the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people in Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the aspirations of the Muslim world and the developments facing this issue.

3. Invites the Member States to continue extending their support to the Palestine Liberation Organisation and to extend all forms of assistance to the Palestinian people for the transfer of all authorities and responsibilities in the occupied Palestinian territories including the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, to the Palestinian National Authority.

4. Asserts that a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East will not be realized unless Israel withdraws from all the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, at the forefront of which is the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, being an integral part of the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967 subject to whatever is applicable to all the occupied territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the UN Security Council and General Assembly. It also underlines the need for the City to return to Palestinian sovereignty as Capital of the State of Palestine, as a guarantee for peace and security in the region.

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5. Invites all States to refrain from having any dealings with the Israeli occupation authorities which might be interpreted in any way by those authorities as an implicit recognition of the "fait accompli" imposed by the proclamation of Al-Quds as the capital of Israel. It reaffirms that all legislative, administrative and settlements' procedures and measures aiming at altering the legal status of the Holy City are null and void and constitute a violation of international agreements, conventions and norms, as proclaimed by international legitimacy resolutions which include the UN Security Council resolutions No. 465, 476 and 478 (1980) as well as those of the UN General Assembly, all of which invalidate the Israeli procedures in question.

6. Also invites the Member States to face up to the serious developments ensuing from the continued Israeli expansionist policy in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, to confront it with all possible means, to provide material resources for the preservation of the Islamic Shrines, and to support the steadfastness of its citizens and institutions in facing up to the Israeli schemes aimed at annexing the city of Al-Quds and wiping out its Arabo-Islamic character.

7. Further invites the international community, and in particular the two co-sponsors of the Peace Conference, to compel Israel not to effect any geographical or demographical alteration in the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif during the transitional period and to refrain from any action or measure which might affect the outcome of the negotiations on the final status of the City.

8. Emphasizes the need for the dismantling of the existing settlements in the Occupied territories, and the reversal of the Jewish settlement movement, particularly in the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, together with the provision of international guarantees to ensure the above.

9. Calls upon all States to adhere to Security Council Resolution No. 478 (1980) which invites the member States to uphold the provisions of the said resolution and refrain from transferring their diplomatic missions to the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif. Takes note of the general response of the states of the world to this resolution and their abidance by it and strongly condemns the resolutions of the American Congress on the transfer of the US Embassy to the City of Al-Quds and considers it a provocation of the feelings of the Muslim world; a flagrant disregard of the Islamic and Christian sanctities; and serious violation of all international resolutions on the City of Al-Quds, including Security Council Resolution No. 478 as well as a threat to destroy the peace process and calls upon the US Administration not to respond to this resolution of the Congress in harmony with its responsibilities as a sponsor of the peace process.

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10. Strongly condemns Israel for the orders it has issued for closing the Palestinian institutions in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and preventing them from operating freely, and considers such measures as a violation of the agreements concluded between the Palestinian and Israeli parties within the framework of the peace process, as well as a blatant violation of international conventions and agreements, particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

11. Strongly condemns the Israeli occupation authorities for the festivities organised in commemoration of the so-called "Third Millennium of the construction of Al-Quds City" which represents a disorientation campaign aimed at distorting historical facts concerning the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and invites the States of the world to boycott these festivities.

12. Invites the Member States to extend all forms of support and assistance to the citizens of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, to establish developmental, economic, cultural, social and architectural projects, to construct housing units for the citizens of Al-Quds, to restore their existing houses, to consolidate their steadfastness, and to save institutions in Al-Quds Al-Sharif from destruction and loss.

13. Affirms the commitment of Member States to pursue and coordinate their action with regional and international organisations for the implementation of the international resolutions adopted by United Nations and its specialized agencies, in particular UNESCO, to stop the hostile measures and aggressive practices and the excavation work in the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and to safeguard its cultural and historical heritage.

14. Reaffirms the resolutions of earlier Islamic Conferences which call for the extension of support to the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the consolidation of the steadfastness of its citizens, through the implementation of the following activities:

(a) Inviting all Islamic States that have not, as yet, signed the twinning of their capitals with the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the capital of the State of Palestine to take early action to this effect and to sponsor projects inside the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif in support of it and of its steadfast citizens.

(b) Issuing of the postage stamp of Palestine.

(c) Organizing Charity fairs in favour of Al-Quds Fund of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

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(d) Undertaking contacts, symposia and festivals to counteract the acts of truth distortion and disorientation of public opinion carried out by Israel through the organisation of the so-called Third Millennium of the City of Al-Quds, and to expose these false allegations.

(e) Sustained coordination on the topic of Al-Quds Al-Sharif with all international and regional fora and organizations and holding international symposia on Al-Quds in different countries, in particular in the current circumstances so as to expose to the international public opinion the dangers facing Al-Quds Al-Sharif and to exert more efforts to safeguard the Holy City.

(f) Sustained coordination with the non-Governmental organisations and holding a symposium on Al-Quds Al-Sharif, jointly with them.

(g) Extending support to educational institutions in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, both schools and universities, and enabling them to fulfill their mission against the judaization of the Holy City.

(h) Extending financial support for the restoration of historical buildings and derelict houses in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and for the construction of houses for Arab citizens so as to bolster their steadfast resistance and thwart the plans for the judaization of the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

(i) Issuing of the postage stamp of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

15. Condemns Israel's persistence in the confiscation of Palestinian land in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and the establishment of settlements there with the purpose of cutting off the Arab city of Al-Quds from the rest of the occupied Palestinian territories as well as its undertaking of excavation works around the Holy Mosque of Al-Quds and tunnel digging in its surrounding area; calls upon the international community to force Israel to discontinue such practices which may compromise the peace process, and reaffirms the need to preserve the Arab entity and Islamic character of Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

16. Strongly condemns the Israeli Supreme Court's decision, issued on 23 September 1993, claiming the Blessed Mosque of Al-Aqsa as part of the territory of the State of Israel, and considers it as a premediated provocation aimed at opening the way for the Zionist extremist gangs to

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continue their violations against the sanctity of the Blessed Mosque of Al-Aqsa, to establish their presence in its precincts, and to continue looting the religious, historical and cultural relics in Al-Quds and the Occupied Territories.

17. requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 3/23-P
ON
THE OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9 to 12 December, 1995),

Having considered the item titled "The Occupied Syrian Golan" and Israel's decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Occupied Syrian Golan;

Having reviewed the repressive measures to which the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan are being subjected and Israel's continued attempts to force them to accept Israeli identity;

Recalling the relevant resolutions of previous Islamic Conferences, the latest being Resolution 3/7-P (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference in Casablanca and Resolution 3/22-P of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers in Casablanca;

Recalling also Security Council Resolution 497 (1981) and the relevant UN General Assembly Resolutions, the latest of which is resolution adopted by the Forty-ninth Session in 1994;

Observing that Israel, in contravention of Article 25 of the United Nations Charter, has refused to accept and implement the numerous relevant resolutions adopted by the Security Council, in particular resolution 497 (1981);

Deeply concerned at the fact that Israel has not withdrawn from the occupied Syrian Golan which it occupies since 1967 contrary to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council;

Noting with satisfaction the convening of the Madrid Peace Conference on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), and the principle of "Land for Peace";

1. Lauds the steadfastness of the Syrian Arab citizens in the Golan against the occupation and their valiant resistance to Israel's repressive measures and against the desperate attempts to weaken their attachment to their land and to their Syrian Arab identity.

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2. Strongly condemns Israel for its non-compliance with UN Security Council Resolution 497 (1981).

3. Reaffirms that Israel's decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Occupied Syrian Golan is illegal, null and void and has no legal validity whatsoever and that it constitutes a flagrant violation of the OIC Charter and relevant resolutions, the UN Charter and relevant resolutions, and the principles of International Law in particular, the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by force.

4. Declares that the Knesset decision of 11 November 1981 sanctioning the annexation of the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void, has no legal effect, and constitutes a flagrant violation of Security Council resolution 497 (1981).

5. Strongly condemns Israel for its persistence in changing the legal status, demographic composition and institutional structure of the Occupied Syrian Golan, and for its policy and practices of confiscating lands, appropriating water resources, establishing settlements and transferring settlers and immigrants thereto and of imposing an economic boycott of the agricultural products of the local population and prohibiting their exportation.

6. Strongly condemns Israel's attempts to impose Israeli nationality and identity cards on the Syrian Arab citizens, as these measures constitute a flagrant violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and the relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly and other international bodies.

7. Reaffirms the applicability of the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the protection of civilian population in time of war to the occupied Syrian Golan.

8. Calls upon all states to halt the flow of any military, economic, financial, technological and human assistance to Israel which may extend the Israeli occupation of the Arab territories and encourage Israel to pursue its expansionist policy against the Arab countries.

9. Reaffirms that the continued occupation by Israel of the Syrian Golan since 1967 and its annexation on 14 December 1981 following Israel's decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration over these territories constitute a constant threat to peace and security in the region.

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10. Strongly reaffirms its demand that Israel, the occupying authority, at once repeals its illegal decision adopted on 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration over the Syrian Golan and which was behind the actual annexation of these territories.

11. Calls upon Israel to fully withdraw from all the occupied Syrian Golan to the lines of the Fourth of June 1967.

12. Invites the international community to prompt and compel Israel to a total withdrawal from the occupied Syrian Golan and the other occupied Arab territories in order to achieve a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region.

13. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution, and to submit a report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 4/23-P
ON
THE OCCUPATION OF LEBANESE TERRITORY BY ISRAEL

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9 to 12 December, 1995),

Proceeding from the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

Referring to the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and all resolutions adopted by previous Conferences;

Considering that Israel continues to occupy territories in Southern Lebanon and the Lebanese Western Bikaa', thereby violating the sovereignty of Lebanon as well as international resolutions;

Considering that the authorities of the Israeli enemy in the occupied territories detain innocent citizens and subject them to the most hideous forms of torture and prevents international organizations from being regularly informed about their conditions, in flagrant violation of the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949;

Considering that Israel has proceeded to besiege Lebanese villages and annex parts of them, thus preventing the civilian population from having access to their property and earning their livelihood, in violation of basic human rights;

Considering that Israel carries out raids and artillery attacks against villages and the peaceful civilian population in Southern Lebanon and the Western Bikaa', in violation of the rules of international law;

1. Strongly condemns Israel for its continued occupation of part of Southern Lebanon and the Lebanese Western Bikaa', and urgently presses the United Nations and the Security Council in particular to compel Israel to implement the Council resolutions, in particular Resolution 425 (1978) which demands the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from occupied Lebanese territory beyond the internationally recognized Lebanese borders, and the respect of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon.

2. Also strongly condemns all inhuman practices of Israeli forces in the occupied Lebanese territories and the use of coercion, terrorism, repression and mass reprisal against the civilian population and the detention of Lebanese citizens in Israeli prisons and in those of its puppet forces and also calls on the U.N. Security Council and the U.N. Secretary General to step up their efforts aimed at releasing Lebanese detainees in these prisons, improving the conditions of their detention and sheding light on the fate of missing persons and secure the handing over of the bodies of martyrs.

3. Pays tribute to the heroic Lebanese people for their unrelenting resistance against Israeli occupation, and calls on the international community to put pressure on Israel to bring to an end its aggression against innocent civilians and their displacement from their villages and lands in the occupied part of the Lebanese territory.

4. Requests the U.N. Security Council to adopt the necessary resolution on the compensation of damages resulting from Israel's shelling of the innocent civilian population in Southern Lebanon and the Lebanese Western Bikaa', and set up an international mechanism to compel it to pay this compensation.

5. Calls on the international community to intensify efforts so as to extend assitance to Lebanon to strengthen its economic situation and consolidate the political gain achieved by the Lebanese Government.

6. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 5/23-P
ON
AL-QUDS FUND AND ITS WAQF

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9 to 12 December, 1995),

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf contained in Document No. ICFM/23-95/PAL/D.3;

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference;

Referring to all the Islamic Resolutions adopted on Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf;

Reaffirming the principle of consolidating Islamic solidarity with the Palestinian people and their legitimate struggle;

Paying tribute to Member States that regularly fulfil their obligations and make donations to Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf;

Appreciating the significance of the vital role played by Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf in supporting the struggle and Jihad of the Palestinian people within the occupied Palestinian territories, and particularly the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

Noting with great concern Israel's continued pursuit of its aggressive, expansionist and settlement policy;

Commending the positive role played by the Governing Board of Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf in quest of financial resources to promote the Fund and its Waqf;

Expressing its concern over the continuing critical financial situation of the Fund and seeing the necessity of overcoming it so as to enable the Fund to realize the objectives entrusted to it;

1. Reaffirms all previous relevant resolutions adopted by successive Islamic Conferences.

2. Reiterates all recommendations and resolutions of the earlier meetings of the Governing Board of Al-Quds Fund.

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3. Calls upon Member States to honour their commitment to cover the approved budgets for Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf amounting to a hundred million U.S. Dollars each and urges Member States to take steps towards paying their contributions and appeals to those which have not pledged donations to Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf to do so.

4. Expresses its profound thanks and appreciation to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and to the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the continued support to Al-Quds Fund, which falls within the framework of their consistent solicitude towards the foremost cause of the Islamic Ummah, namely that of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and Palestine. It further hails the annual appeal addressed by H.R.H. Prince Salman Bin Abdulaziz, Emir of the Province of Riyadh and Chairman of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Supreme Committee for the welfare of the Palestinian freedom fighters, to the citizens and residents to make donations for the benefit of Al-Quds Fund. It calls upon Member States to continue their donations campaign in favour of Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf, together with the directives given to the public and other media to conduct a special campaign for this purpose.

5. Urges Member States to encourage the organisation, at local and Islamic levels of festivals, exhibitions and charity bazars, whose proceeds would enhance the resources of the Fund.

6. Calls upon Member States to continue their support to the Palestine Liberation Organisation, especially at this decisive stage, for the consolidation of its national authority over all occupied Palestinian territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and to extend all forms of support to the Palestinian people so that they may build up their institutions and national economy.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 6/23-P
ON
REPUBLIC OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, which emphasized the commitment of Islamic Ummah to the consolidation of international peace and security;

Bearing in mind the obligation of all States to act in conformity with the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter;

Reaffirming particularly the obligation of all States to refrain from the threat or use of force in their international relations;

Reaffirming its commitment to the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and rejecting any attempt to violate or erode them;

Reaffirming also all OIC Resolutions and Declarations relating to the situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

Recalling all relevant resolutions adopted by the U.N. Security Council and General Assembly regarding Bosnia-Herzegovina, in particular General Assembly resolutions 46/242, 47/121, 48/88 and 49/10 as well as those adopted by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights;

Expressing indignation and concern at the failure of the United Nations to halt aggression against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the genocide of the people by the Bosnian Serbs and recognizing in unequivocal terms the latter as the aggressors;

Strongly condemning the forcible seizure by the Serbs of the safe and demilitarized area of Srebrenica and safe area of Zepa, the lack of improvement in the situation prevailing in Gorarzde and other safe areas and the merciless targeting of its civilian population by the Serbs due to the failure of the UN to provide effective protection of the UN designated safe areas;

Deploring vigorously, the continued non-compliance by Serbia and Montenegro and by the Serbs with relevant international resolutions;

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Affirming the necessity of ensuring full compliance by the Serbs with all relevant Security Council resolutions, and urging the Security Council to take each time effective and resolute measures in this regard;

Reaffirming the principle of inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by the use of force;

Convinced that the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina has the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence, recognized in Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations and reiterating that arms embargo imposed on the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina was unjust, illegal and constituted a major factor impeding the exercise of the right of self-defence;

Stressing that the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina warrants the implementation of decisive measures in conformity with the provisions of Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, in particular Article 42;

Expressing its full support to the principled, courageous and conciliatory position, taken in the spirit of peace, by the Bosnian Government, especially its acceptance of the Dayton Peace Agreement;

Noting that the adoption by the Security Council of resolution on the easing of sanctions against the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia" (Serbia and Montenegro) as untimely and hasty and not conducive to efforts for promoting a just peace in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

Reiterating its strong conviction that the establishment of an action oriented relationship and coordination between the OIC Contact Group and the 5-Nation Contact Group may facilitate the achievement of a just and durable peace;

Condemning human rights violations against non-Serbs in Kossovo, Vojvodina and Sanjak and _reaffirming_ the national and political rights of the Bosniac Muslims of the Sanjak;

Condemning human rights violations against ethnic Albanians in Kossovo and other parts of the former Yugoslavia and _stressing_ the need to protect their national and political rights;

Noting with serious concern the lack of change in the humanitarian situation on the territory under the control of the legal authorities due to severely reduced capacities of industry and agriculture, increasing number of displaced persons and those expelled from temporary occupied territories by the rebel Serbs, as well as the difficulties of the firms of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina operating abroad;

Reaffirming and Endorsing the Declaration of 21 July, 1995 of the Ministerial Meeting of the OIC Contact Group held at the United Nations in Geneva, and the Declaration of the Special Meeting on Bosnia and Herzegovina of the OIC Contact Group and Troop Contributing Countries to UNPROFOR in Kuala Lumpur on 14 September, 1995;

Welcoming the holding of joint meetings between the OIC Contact Group and the Five-Nation Contact Group which were held in Paris on 7 September, 1995 and in New York on 28 September, 1995 as well as the establishment of a coordination mechanism between the two Contact Groups.

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Document No.ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.1/Rev.1 and Addendum to ICFM/23/95/PIL/D.1/Rev.1);

A) AGGRESSION AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA AND VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS:

1. Reaffirms the principled position taken by the OIC member countries on the situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina as reflected in all previous OIC Resolutions and Declarations.

2. Strongly condemns the Serbian aggression against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, genocide and acts of terrorism, particularly the over running of the safe and demilitarized area of Srebrenica and safe area of Zepa by the Serbs as well as their attacks on other safe areas and the perpetration of acts of genocide, ethnic cleansing and other acts of inhumanity against the civilian population of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in blatant violation of Security Council resolution and all norms of civilized conduct, law and morality.

3. Deeply concerned over the acts of ethnic cleansing committed by the Serbs in the Banja Luka and Prijedor areas and demands that all those men and boys of draft age forcibly taken by the Serbs be released safely and immediately.

4. Welcomes the report by the former Special Rapporteur of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights, Mr. Tadeusz Mazowiecki, on the human rights situation in the territories of the former Yugoslavia and urges the U.N. to take necessary and immediate actions to deal with the gross and systematic violations of human rights by the rebel Serbs in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

5. Condemns the human rights violations by Serbia of the non-Serb population in Kossovo, Sanjak and

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Vojvodina and stresses the need to protect their basic rights and freedoms and to grant them the status commensurate with that to be granted to the Serbs in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

6. Welcomes the decision of the U.N. to take military action to halt and prevent rebel Serb attacks on Sarajevo and other safe areas by inviting NATO to carry out strikes and other military actions on rebel Serb military positions.

7. Urges that appropriate measures should be taken to ensure effective follow-up on the work of the International War Crimes Tribunal at The Hague, as well as, to ensure that those indicted by the Tribunal, including Karadzic and Mladic, must be punished for their crimes against humanity, genocide and grave violations of international humanitarian law.

8. Reiterates its strong support to the International War Crimes Tribunal and expresses its willingness to provide financial support to it both multilaterally (within UN) and bilaterally.

9. Urges the International War Crimes Tribunal to vigorously prosecute the suspects so far named by the Tribunal, including Karadzic and Mladic, and calls on all States to fully cooperate with the Tribunal and its Organs.

10. Warns once again the Serb and Montenegren authorities as well as all persons who commit or order the commission of breaches of international humanitarian law in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina that they are individually responsible in respect of such breaches and will be punished for crimes against humanity and genocide in accordance with the Geneva Conventions and Convention on Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and requests in this context the International Tribunal established pursuant to Security Council Resolution 829 to expeditiously try and punish those responsible for the perpetration of crimes against humanity in the former Yugoslavia.

11. Demands that the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) be granted free access to all detention camps established by Serbs in Serbia and Montenegro and in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and to all persons imprisoned in these camps and urges the Serbian authorities to provide to the ICRC all information related to the prisoners without further delay.

B) REPUBLIC OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA'S RIGHT TO SELF-DEFENCE:

12. Reaffirms that the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina has the inherent right to individual and

collective self-defence as recognized by Article 51 of the UN Charter and should be provided with all necessary means for self defense to exercise individually or collectively its inherent right recognized by Article 51 of the UN Charter which includes its right to receive defence assistance.

13. Expresses its readiness to cooperate with all UN member states who exhibit a willingness on their own initiative to provide the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the means for self defense;

14. Further reaffirms the position of OIC countries that they do not consider themselves "de jure" obliged to respect the illegal and unjust arms embargo imposed against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a member of the U.N., which is the victim of Serbian aggression and genocide.

15. Reiterates that consistent with Article 51 of the UN Charter as well as Article 1 of the Convention on Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, all states are under an obligation to provide necessary means to enable the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina to defend itself against aggression and genocide.

C) ESSENTIAL CONDITIONS OF A PEACE SETTLEMENT:

16. Reiterates the full and effective commitment of OIC countries to support the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina within its internationally recognized borders.

17. Rejects strongly any suggestion to permit or legalize any special or confederal relationship between the Bosnian Serbs and Serbia and Montenegro, as this would violate and undermine the territorial integrity of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

18. Reaffirms the principle of the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by the use of force and emphasizes the importance of the not taking any measures which would reward aggression or appease the aggressor as this would be detrimental to upholding the principles of the U.N. Charter and International Law.

19. Emphasizes the need to ensure that the ongoing peace process is consistent with the full and effective sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, democratic principles, the highest standards of human rights, the right and opportunity for refugees and displaced persons to return free and unhindered to their homes and full respect for international law including the decisions of the International War Crimes Tribunal.

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20. Welcomes the Dayton peace agreement at the initiative of the United States.

21. Reiterates the obligation of the international community to ensure the full implementation of the Dayton peace agreement and reaffirms that in order to establish a just and durable peace in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina it is necessary to ensure:

- Full and effective sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina within its internationally recognized borders must be preserved.
- Territorial arrangements should ensure full and complete return of all populated areas seized by rebel Serbs through the use of force and ethnic cleansing on the basis of roll-back principle.
- Sarajevo must be maintained as an integral, undivided and multicultural city under the control of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Any relationship of the entities to be established in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina with neighbouring or other countries should be fully consistent with the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina within its internationally recognized borders.
- The integrity of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina be guaranteed by joint institutions of the State, notably the Parliament, the Presidency, the Government, the Constitutional Court and a Central Bank and joint functions such as foreign affairs, defence, protection of human rights and freedoms, citizenship, protection of external borders, communications, currency, customs, foreign trade, budget and financing on the state level.
- Arrangements should ensure that no single party will be able to block the effective functioning of the joint institutions of the states through creation of a Constitutional Court.
- Democratic elections should be held on the basis of the following conditions: (a) freedom of functioning of all political parties, freedom of press, personal freedom and the right to private property; (b) return of a

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large number of refugees to towns in which they lived before the war; (c) efficient international control of elections; (d) elections should be held while the international forces for implementing peace are in the country; and (e) elections for the Presidency and Parliament must be direct.

- All individuals who have been indicted or suspected by the International War Crimes Tribunal for committing war crimes must not be permitted to participate in the elections.
- Serbia and Croatia should be officially obliged to declare that they do not have territorial designs towards the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and will not incite separatist and secessionist movements in Bosnia.
- The Army of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina should be enabled to defend the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina on its own from any possible aggression.
- The status and rights to be granted to rebel Serbs in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina should be at par with those of the non-Serb population in Sanjak.
- The cultural and religious plurality of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina should be preserved throughout its territory. The Federation of Bosniacs and Croats should be supported in all fields to ensure the effective reunification of the whole territory of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- There must be international guarantee for the protection of human rights, democratic elections, freedom of movement and the right of refugees to return to their homes, as well as, the right to private property and obligation to return the confiscated or illegally acquired property. All illegal acts should be made null and void.

D) SANCTIONS AGAINST SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO:

22. Expresses its outrage over the deliberate and continuing military involvement of Serbia-Montenegro and its assistance to the Bosnian rebel Serbs and emphasizes the need for taking effective measures to put an end to such illegal deliveries by strengthening the mechanisms to seal the border between Bosnia-Herzegovina and Serbia-Montenegro.

23. Expresses its opposition to the lifting of sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro (the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia), as well as any easing of sanctions until such time that Serbia and Montenegro (Federal Republic of Yugoslavia):

(a) Recognizes the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina within its internationally recognized borders;

(b) Accepts the placement of United Nations Forces on the borders for effective monitoring;

(c) Abides by the provisions of the Dayton peace agreement, including full withdrawal from all occupied territory of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

24. Calls upon those states which have not yet done so to sever all economic and commercial ties with Serbia and Montenegro.

25. Supports the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in its legal action before the International Court of Justice against the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia" (Serbia-Montenegro) for violations of the Convention on Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

E) MULTINATIONAL FORCE:

26. Reiterates the need for an effective peace implementation mechanism under the mandate of the UN Security Council and reaffirms the need to ensure adequate representation of the OIC troops in the multi-national force including effective participation in its command structure.

27. Further reiterates that the financing of the operations of the multi-national force to implement the `eace agreement should be envisaged in a manner which should enable Member States of the OIC to participate in the peace implementation force.

F) RECONSTRUCTION:

28. Appeals to the international community to assist in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and calls on the OIC member countries to make special efforts to offer humanitarian, commercial, economic and technical cooperation to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

29. Calls on member countries to extend necessary assistance and support to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Croatia on a bilateral, trilateral or multilateral basis with a view to

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strengthening their economies and to promote mutual respect, firm friendship and cooperation between these two Republics as well as to fortify the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

30. Expresses the urgent need for providing humanitarian assistance for the refugees and displaced persons of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and appeals to Governments and International Organizations to mobilize financial and humanitarian assistance for alleviating the sufferings of the Bosnian refugees and displaced persons.

31. Calls on the international community to oblige the aggressors against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina to compensate the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the maximum extent possible for the massive destruction of its infrastructure, economy as well as its religious and cultural heritage.

32. Emphasizes the necessity of ensuring that assured and adequate resources are provided for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in line with democratic principles, respect for human rights and free return of refugees and displaced persons.

33. Urges the Governments and financial institutions as well as humanitarian organizations to extend direct or indirect financial and humanitarian assistance to the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina aimed at alleviating the humanitarian crisis, rehabilitating the basic economic activities for the survival of population as well as assisting the firms operating abroad and also encourages assistance to be extended to the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

34. Appeals to the international community to mobilize resources for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in coordination and cooperation with the Agency for Reconstruction and Development (AICRED) and emphasizes the need to aid the efforts of the Special Coordinator for Sarajevo in conjunction with Security Council Resolution 900.

35. Renews its commitment to assist in the rebuilding of the economic infrastructure of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, to provide financial support for the procurement of the requirements of the Bosnian government, as well as assist Bosnian firms operating abroad.

36. Calls on member states to extend their cooperation and support to the OIC-IDB Programme of Assistance for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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37. Welcomes and supports the decision of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia-Herzegovina to establish an "Assistance Mobilization Group for Bosnia and Herzegovina" in accordance with the Plan of Action adopted at the Meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia-Herzegovina and Troop Contributing Countries at Kuala Lumpur on 14 September 1995 for mobilizing and coordinating humanitarian, economic, legal and defence assistance in line with the obligations and commitments of the OIC member countries under the UN Charter.

38. Urges Member States to actively participate in the efforts of the "Assistance Mobilization Group for Bosnia and Herzegovina" in order to mobilize greater assistance in different fields for the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

G) PARTICIPATION OF THE OIC CONTACT GROUP IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PEACE AGREEMENT:

39. Reaffirms that the direct participation of the OIC Contact Group in the implementation of the peace agreement would be essential to facilitate a just and equitable peace settlement.

40. Emphasizes the necessity for an active and meaningful participation of OIC member countries in the implementation of the Dayton peace agreement.

41. Welcomes the Joint Meetings of the OIC Contact Group and the Five Nation Contact Group at Paris on 7 September, 1995 and at New York on 28 September, 1995 and underlines that these consultations between the two Contact Groups on a frequent and regular basis are essential for facilitating the realization of a just and durable peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

42. Commends the work of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina and requests it to continue its work.

43. Requests the Chairman of the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and the Secretary-General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 7/23-P
ON
JAMMU AND KASHMIR DISPUTE

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Reaffirming the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Conference which emphasize the common goals and destiny of the peoples of the Islamic Ummah;

Emphasizing the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and recalling the UN resolutions relevant to the Jammu and Kashmir dispute which remain unimplemented;

Recalling that the Simla Agreement signed between the Governments of India and Pakistan calls for a final settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir issue;

Reaffirming the importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charters of the OIC and the United Nations;

Recalling the Special Declaration on Jammu and Kashmir adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference and previous OIC resolutions on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute;

Expressing concern at the alarming increase in the indiscriminate use of force and gross violations of human rights committed against innocent Kashmiris;

Recalling the Report of the OIC Fact Finding Mission on the situation in Kashmir following its visit to Azad Jammu and Kashmir in February 1993, and regretting that the human rights situation in Indian held Jammu and Kashmir remains grave;

Regretting also that the Government of India has not responded favourably so far to the offer of the Good Offices Mission made by the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and renewed by the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summit Conferences;

Further regretting that the OIC Fact Finding Mission was not allowed to visit Indian held Jammu and Kashmir;

Noting the report of the Ministerial Meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir and endorsing the recommendations contained therein.

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Taking note of the strong condemnation by Pakistan and the True Representatives of the Kashmiri people, including the leadership of the All Parties Hurrieyet Conference of the deplorable act of hostage taking by "Al-Faran" and calling for the immediate and safe release of all the hostages.

Taking note of the Memorandum submitted by the True Representatives of Jammu and Kashmir, which inter-alia, asserts that the people of Jammu and Kashmir will not accept the imposition of a fraudulent political process in Kashmir and that the so-called political process or elections could not be a substitute for a plebiscite as is affirmed in Security Council Resolutions No. 91 (1951) and 122 (1957).

1. Takes note of the Report of the Secretary General on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute and endorses the recommendations contained therein (Document No. ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.3).

2. Calls for a peaceful settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir issue in accordance with the relevant UN Resolutions and as agreed upon in the Simla Agreement.

3. Condemns the continuing massive violations of human rights of the Kashmiri people and calls for the respect of their human rights including the right of self-determination.

4. Calls upon Member states to take all necessary steps to persuade India to cease forthwith the gross and systematic human rights violations of the Kashmiri people and to enable them to exercise their inalienable right to self determination as mandated by the relevant resolutions of the Security Council.

5. Affirms that any political process/elections held under foreign occupation cannot be a substitute to the exercise of the right of self-determination by people of Kashmir as is provided in the relevant Security Council Resolutions.

6. Calls upon India to allow International Human Rights Groups and Humanitarian Organizations to visit Jammu and Kashmir.

7. Supports the efforts of the Government of Pakistan to initiate a meaningful bilateral dialogue for resolving the Jammu and Kashmir dispute and calls upon the Government of India to respond positively to these efforts.

8. Affirms that a sustained dialogue is essential to address the core of the problems and to remove the basic causes of tension between India and Pakistan.

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9. Expresses its deep concern at the prevailing tension that threatens security and peace in the region as a result of the large scale deployment of Indian troops in the Indian held Jammu and Kashmir.

10. Calls upon India and Pakistan to redeploy their forces to peace-time locations.

11. Appeals to the Member States, OIC and Islamic Institutions, such as the Islamic Solidarity Fund, and philanthropists to mobilize funds and contribute generously towards providing humanitarian assistance to the Kashmiri people.

12. Requests the Government of India, in the interest of regional peace and security, to avail itself of the offer of Good Offices made by the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summit Conferences.

13. Requests the Secretary General to establish contact with the governments of India and Pakistan and the true representatives of the people of Jammu and Kashmir with a view to promoting a just and peaceful settlement of the Kashmir dispute.

14. Appreciating the efforts made by the Secretary General for enabling the true representatives of the Kashmiri people to have their views expressed in OIC and other international fora, and requests him to continue to take all necessary steps in this regard.

15. Requests the Secretary General to send a three member OIC Fact Finding Mission to visit Jammu and Kashmir as decided by the Twentieth, Twenty-first and Twenty-second Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers as well as the Seventh Extra-ordinary session and the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summit Conferences, and to submit a report to him.

16. Requests the Government of India to allow the OIC Fact-Finding Mission to visit Jammu and Kashmir.

17. Recommends that member states continue to coordinate their positions and to take joint action at the UN General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights and other relevant international fora to promote respect for the fundamental human rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

18. Commends the efforts being made by the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir.

19. Requests the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir to continue its efforts for promoting the right of

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self-determination of the Kashmiri people in accordance with the UN Resolutions and for safeguarding their fundamental human rights.

20. Decides to consider the Jammu and Kashmir Dispute at the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and at the Eighth Islamic Summit Conference.

21. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to present reports thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and the next Islamic Summit.

RESOLUTION NO. 8/23-P
ON
THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and resolutions of the Islamic Conferences, which emphasize the common goals and destiny of the peoples of the Islamic Ummah;

Affirming anew the right of all peoples to decide the form of government they wish to have and to choose their own political, economic and social systems, free from all forms of foreign intervention, coercion or pressure;

Recalling the principled stand adopted by the Islamic Conference in its resolutions on Afghanistan since January 1980;

Reiterating its commitment to the promotion of peace and stability in Afghanistan and to the safeguarding of the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of this country;

Recalling all relevant U.N. General Assembly resolutions particularly Resolution No.48/208 on the emergency international assistance for the reconstruction of war stricken Afghanistan adopted by the 48th Session of the General Assembly;

Noting the establishment of the Islamic State in Afghanistan and successful conclusion of the Afghan Jihad;

Recalling the Afghan Peace Accord signed in Islamabad and ratified at Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 18 Ramadan, 1413H (11 March 1993) as well as in Tehran;

Noting with serious concern that the Afghan parties have not been able, so far, to evolve a national consensus as a consequence of which the political crisis has deepened leading to the escalation of armed conflict;

Expressing its grave concern over the outbreak of armed hostilities among various Afghan factions and parties;

Seriously concerned over the tragic humanitarian dimensions of this conflict which has caused immense loss of life, wide spread destruction, deprivation and famine in various parts of Afghanistan as well as large scale exodus of refugees and displacement of population within Afghanistan;

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Recalling the unfortunate incident which occurred at the Pakistan Embassy in Kabul on 6 September 1995;

Underlining the importance of providing humanitarian, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance to Afghanistan and the urgent need to take international actions in this regard;

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary General on the situation in Afghanistan (Document No. ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.2).

2. Expresses its deep concern over the fratricidal conflict in Afghanistan and appeals to the Afghan leadership to spare no effort to bring the hostilities to an immediate end.

3. Emphasizes the urgent need for a new political consensus among the Afghan parties.

4. Further emphasizes the need for the immediate establishment of an enlarged mechanism involving all Afghan parties to deal with all issues relating to the Afghan crisis including that of the transfer of power.

5. Affirms the need for the launching of a credible intra-Afghan process for restoring peace and stability in Afghanistan and for reviving the political, economic, social and institutional infrastructure of the Afghan society.

6. Emphasizes the need for promoting national reconciliation and rapprochement as well as for demobilization of armed groups and formation of national army and police force.

7. Expresses its appreciation and support for the initiatives taken by the Secretary General to promote a credible intra-Afghan peace process.

8. Calls upon the Afghan parties to extend their full cooperation to the ongoing efforts of the Secretary General and his Special Representative for promoting peace in Afghanistan.

9. Reaffirms the decisions of the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summit Conferences that the OIC should have an active role in the solution of the Afghanistan problem.

10. Emphasizes the need for effective protection of all the diplomatic missions in Kabul in conformity with the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, 1961.

11. Calls for full respect of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, independence and Islamic character of Afghanistan and non-interference in its internal affairs.

12. Emphasizes the need for continued close coordination of efforts between OIC and UN for promoting a peaceful political settlement in Afghanistan by setting a credible intra-Afghan mechanism.

13. Expresses its appreciation for the continuing efforts of the United Nations to draw the attention of the international community to the acute economic and political problems of Afghanistan, and for promoting peace and mobilizing assistance for rehabilitation and reconstruction and in this regard, encourages the continuing cooperation between the efforts of the OIC and the UN Special Mission.

14. Notes with satisfaction all the efforts made by various international organizations, particularly the UNHCR, the International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in providing humanitarian assistance to the war victims inside Afghanistan under most difficult circumstances.

15. Requests the Islamic Development Bank to evaluate the war damage and destruction in Afghanistan and to prepare a comprehensive report on requirements for rehabilitation and reconstruction of the country.

16. Appeals to the international community, in particular Member States, to respond to the humanitarian exigencies of the situation in Afghanistan by extending generous assistance.

17. Urges Member States and Islamic financial institutions to provide assistance for the Afghan refugees in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran and calls for the speedy and voluntary repatriation and rehabilitation of Afghan refugees.

18. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit reports thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 9/23-P ON THE SITUATION IN SOMALIA

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20, Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference;

Recalling all relevant resolutions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers and resolutions adopted by the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summit Conferences on the situation in Somalia;

Gravely concerned about the factional fighting and civil strife which has virtually destroyed Somalia, caused immense suffering to its people and has serious implications for the national unity, territorial integrity and political independence of this Islamic country;

Commending the timely initiative of His Excellency Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal and Chairman of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference in requesting the Security Council to send peace keeping forces to Somalia, in pursuance of Resolution 13/6-P(IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit as well as his proposal to the 47th Session of the UN General Assembly for the convening of an International Conference for Peace and National Reconciliation in Somalia;

Noting with satisfaction the intensive efforts made by the Organization of Islamic Conference to promote peace and national reconciliation in Somalia, in cooperation with the United Nations, the League of Arab States and the Organization of African Unity, in the framework of joint approach, which has produced positive results;

Taking Note of all relevant Security Council Resolutions on Somalia;

Noting also the signing of the Addis Ababa Agreement for Peace and National Reconciliation in Somalia in March 1993 as well as the results of the informal consultations between the Somali factions held in Nairobi in March 1994;

Commending the tremendous efforts made by the international community in providing relief and humanitarian assistance to the victims of war and famine in Somalia through effective and coordinated efforts under the framework of the Security Council;

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Encouraging the ongoing efforts of the regional States and the Organization of African Unity for promoting peace in Somalia;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General, (Document No.ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.4);

1. Reaffirms its commitment to the restoration and preservation of the unity, sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Somalia.

2. Notes with appreciation the constant efforts made by the Organization of Islamic Conference to promote peace and national reconciliation in Somalia, as well as for the alleviation of the suffering of the Somali people in cooperation with the regional States, the United Nations, the League of Arab States and Organization of African Unity, in the framework of a joint approach and calls for continuation of such efforts and requests the Secretary General to send a Contact Group to urge various Somali parties to resume their dialogue with a view to achieving national reconciliation.

3. Calls for the convening of an international conference on peace and national reconciliation in Somalia in accordance with the relevant resolution of the UN General Assembly, with the participation of all the Somali parties and all the concerned international and regional organizations.

4. Welcomes the signature of the Addis Ababa Agreement for the establishment of peace and national reconciliation in Somalia, and invites all the Somali factions to work for the simultaneous disarmament of all the militias and other groups.

5. Decides to extend its full support to the ongoing efforts of the regional States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the United Nations, the League of Arab States and the Organization of African Unity in Somalia.

6. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have contributed troops to UN operation in Somalia as well as those which have provided relief and humanitarian assistance to the Somali people.

7. Calls upon the international community, especially the Member States, to assist in the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Somalia by continuing to provide urgent humanitarian assistance such as food and medicine in order to enable Somalia to rebuild the institutions and the educational infrastructures and to absorb all the youth in the general education schools inside Somalia as well as offer scholarships at the university level in the universities of Member States.

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8. Calls upon all states, in particular the neighbouring states, to cooperate in the implementation of the arms embargo established by Security Council Resolution 733 (1992) and also calls upon all Somali factions to enter into negotiations for a constructive dialogue for a peaceful settlement of the problem.

9. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 10/23-P
ON THE
CONSEQUENCES OF IRAQ'S AGGRESSION AGAINST KUWAIT AND IRAQ'S NON-COMPLIANCE WITH SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Having taken cognizance of the report submitted by the Secretary General to the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Document No. ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.5);

Considering the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter which calls for strengthening Islamic solidarity among Member States;

Taking note of recent developments in the situation between Iraq and Kuwait;

Mindful of the fundamental interests of the Islamic Ummah and of Islamic solidarity;

1. Calls upon Iraq to pursue efforts towards the fulfillment of its obligations under the relevant Security Council resolutions, for the establishment of security, peace and stability in the region.

2. Calls on Iraq to cooperate fully and seriously with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Tripartite Committee in Geneva which was established under its sponsorship and supervision, with a view to implementing its engagements pursuant to Para. 2C and Para. 3C of resolutions No. 686 (1991) and (30) of resolution No. 687 (1991) pertaining to urgent release of prisoners and hostages from among Kuwaiti military troops and civilians and any others so as to put an end to this humanitarian issue.

3. Affirms that Iraq, in accepting resolution 686 (1991) and resolution 687 (1991) is deemed accountable for implementing Para 2-B of resolution 686 and Para 16 of resolution 687 which involve the responsibility of Iraq under the relevant Security Council resolutions for reparations in respect of any direct loss

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or direct harm, including any attendent environmental damages, depletion of natural resources or any losses sustained by foreign governments, their nationals or their companies.

4. Reaffirms, Security Council resolution 949 which calls on Iraq not to use again its military or any other forces in an aggressive or provocative manner to threaten its neighbours or the U.N. operations in Iraq.

5. Emphasizes that Iraq must commit itself to the implementation of all requirements in full by providing all information on its armaments' programme in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the Security Council; and must fully cooperate with the Committee concerned with the elimination of the weapons of Mass destruction (UNSCOM) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

6. Reaffirms respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Iraq; expresses its sympathy with the Iraqi people and welcomes, in this respect, Security Council Resolutions No. 986 (1995) and considers same to be a step that should be accepted and implemented by Iraq so as to alleviate this suffering.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Islamic Conference.

RESOLUTION NO. 11 /23-P
ON THE
CONFLICT BETWEEN ARMENIA AND AZERBAIJAN

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Gravely concerned over the serious escalation of aggression by the Republic of Armenia against the Azerbaijan Republic which has resulted in the occupation of more than 20% of Azeri territory;

Deeply distressed over the plight of more than one million Azeri displaced persons and refugees resulting from Armenian aggression and magnitude and severity of humanitarian problems;

Recalling the principled position taken on this issue by the Fifth and Seventh Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Istanbul in June 1992, and Islamabad in September, 1994 respectively;

Also recalling the relevant paragraphs of the Final Communique adopted by the OIC Coordination Meeting of the Foreign Ministers at the United Nations, New York, on 23 September, 1992 and 3 October, 1994;

Noting the efforts made by the neighbouring countries and regional states, notably the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Turkey to promote a peaceful settlement of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan;

Conscious of the threat posed to international peace and security by the Armenian aggression;

Urging strict adherence to the Charter of the UN and full implementation of Security Council resolutions;

Noting the destructive influence of the policy of aggression of the Republic of Armenia on the peace process in the CSCE framework;

1. Strongly condemns the aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Azerbaijan Republic.

2. Considers the actions perpetrated against civilian Azeri population in occupied Azeri territory as blatant violation of human rights.

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3. Strongly demands the strict implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions 822, 853, 874 and 884, immediate unconditional and complete withdrawal of Armenian forces from all occupied Azeri territories inter alia Lachin and Shusha regions and strongly urges Armenia to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Azerbaijan Republic.

4. Calls on the Security Council to recognize the existence of aggression against the Azerbaijan Republic; take the necessary steps under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations to ensure compliance with its resolutions; condemn and reverse aggression against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Azerbaijan Republic and decides to take coordinated action to this end at the United Nations.

5. Reaffirms that acquisition of land by use of force cannot be recognized.

6. Calls for a just and peaceful settlement of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan on the basis of respect for the principles of territorial integrity of states and inviolability of internationally recognized frontiers.

7. Urges both Armenia and Azerbaijan and all states member of the Minsk Group to engage constructively in the ongoing CSCE peace process and refrain from any action that will make it more difficult to reach a peaceful solution.

8. Reaffirms its total solidarity and support for the efforts being made by the Government and people of Azerbaijan to defend their country.

9. Calls for enabling the displaced persons and refugees to return to their homes in safety, honour and dignity.

10. Expresses its concern over the severity of humanitarian problems concerning the existence of more than one million displaced persons and refugees in the territory of the Azerbaijan Republic and requests the member states, the Islamic Development Bank and the other Islamic Institutions to render urgent financial and humanitarian assistance to the Azerbaijan Republic.

11. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this Resolution and to submit a Report to the Twenty-Fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 12/23-P
ON
THE UNITED STATES AGGRESSION AGAINST THE GREAT SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Believing in the common destiny of Islamic States and in solidarity among themselves;

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Reaffirming the support pledged by the OIC to the Islamic and Arab countries subjected to imperialist and Zionist threats;

Taking into consideration the obligation of all States to refrain from the threat or use of force against the sovereignty, territorial integrity or political independence of any other State;

Recalling all the relevant resolutions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers which condemned the measures taken by the United States Administration against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahirya and affirmed its right to obtain adequate reparations for the material and human losses it had sustained;

Also recalling the resolution of the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference which condemned the United States aggression against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and confirmed its right to full reparations for the material and human losses arising therefrom;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary General on the United States aggression against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (ICFM/23-95/ PIL/D.7);

1. Once again decides:

(a) to condemn the continuing United States aggression and threats and plots against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

(b) to support the right of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to appropriate reparations for the physical and human losses sustained as a result of aggression.

(c) to support the right of the Jamahiriya to demand reparations from the United States in

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conformity with United Nations General Assembly Resolution 38/41.

2. Reaffirms its solidarity with the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in defending its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity against the economic boycott measures which seek to undermine its plans for development.

3. Condemns the U.S. economic boycott measures against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and calls for their cancellation forthwith as they violate international law and conventions.

4. Calls upon the United States to desist from all threats, provocations and acts of aggression against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya as such practices contravene international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

5. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and report to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the action taken in this regard.

RESOLUTION NO. 13/23-P ON THE CRISIS BETWEEN THE GREAT SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYIA, ON THE ONE HAND AND THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED KINGDOM AND REPUBLIC OF FRANCE, ON THE OTHER

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Having studied the item concerning the current crisis between the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on the one hand, and both the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the Republic of France on the other;

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations which stipulate that all Member States are committed to refrain from the use or the threat of use of force in their international relations; the settlement of their disputes by peaceful means; respect for the independence of all Member States' and refrain from any threat to their sovereignty, territorial integrity and safety of their people;

Reaffirming the resolution of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference No. 13/7-P (IS) on this crisis as well as all previous Islamic resolutions and the resolutions and statements issued by the regional Organizations such as the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States, and the Non-Aligned Movement, all of which that had called for solidarity with the Great Jamahiriya and had supported its efforts aiming at the achievement of a peaceful solution for the crisis within the framework of respect for the Libyan national sovereignty and principles of international law;

Taking note of the stand of the Great Jamahiriya that denounces all forms and types of terrorism and condemns all those that use or encourage it, and its willingness to cooperate with any international or regional efforts exerted for the solution of this problem;

Expressing satisfaction with the positive initiatives undertaken by the Great Jamahiriya for the solution of this crisis and its acceptance of the UN Security Council Resolution No. 731/92 and its request to the UN Secretary General to find out the mechanism for the implementation of this resolution while expressing its full cooperation within the context of the initiatives it has taken and the proposals it has put forward;

Expressing its deep concern over the humanitarian and material damages inflicted upon the Libyan Arab people

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and the neighbouring peoples, as a result of the coercive measures applied in implementation of UN Security Council resolutions Nos. 748/92 and 883/93;

Expressing its sorrow over the disregarding and neglecting, by the three Western States, of the successive resolutions adopted by the regional organizations so as to ensure a just and equitable solution to the dispute;

And reaffirming the risks posed by the continuation of this crisis (Lockerbie) to the security and peace of the world, particularly to the North African and the Mediterranean Regions;

Proceeding from the principles and Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference calling for promoting Islamic solidarity among the Member States;

Referring to (para 163) of the Final Document adopted by the Eleventh Session of the Non-Alignment Movement Summit No.NAC11/DOC-1/REV.2 dated 20 October, 1995;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on this crisis (Document No. ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.24);

1. Expresses its appreciation to the declaration of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya of its repeated condemnation of terrorism and its full readiness to cooperate within the context of efforts exerted by any quarter to combat and suppress terrorism. It commends the spirit of responsibility and self-restraint with which the Great Jamahiriya is treating this crisis.

2. Expresses its concern over the escalation of the crisis and the threat to impose further sanctions or to use force as a means of interaction among states, and thereby violating the United Nations Charter as well as international laws and norms.

3. Affirms its solidarity with the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and recommends to all parties concerned to avoid all procedures that may lead to the escalation of tension which is detrimental to the Libyan people and neighbouring States.

4. Expresses its appreciation to the willingness of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to settle the dispute peacefully and cooperate in conducting a useful dialogue with the parties to the conflict.

5. Condemns the continuation of sanctions against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya despite the efforts and initiatives of various regional and international organizations aimed at achieving a peaceful and just solution according to international law.

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6. Reiterates its appeal to the Security Council to reconsider its resolutions 731/92, 748/92 and 883/93 and lift the sanctions imposed on the Great Jamahiriya.

7. Calls on all parties concerned to respond to the call for dialogue and negotiation aimed at reaching a peaceful solution to the crisis in accordance with Article (33) of Chapter VI of the United Nations Charter which stipulates the resolution of crises by negotiations, mediation and legal settlement according to the rules of international law. It also calls for giving suspected individuals a just and fair trial in a neutral country agreed upon by the parties concerned.

8. Declares its support for the proposal made in the resolution adopted by the League of Arab States No. 5373-DA, (101)-C3) on 27 March 1993 calling for the holding of a just trial of the two suspects by Scottish Judges in accordance with Scottish law at the seat of the International Court of Justice in The Hague and for urging the Security Council to take into consideration this serious proposal to seek a peaceful solution so as to avoid any escalation of the situation that may result in increasing the tension in the region.

9. Supports the right of the Great Jamahiriya to appropriate reparations for material and human losses and damages it sustained as a result of implementation of Resolutions No.731, 748 and 883.

10. Affirms its solidarity with the Great Jamahiriya in defending its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and in confronting the economic boycott measures which undermine development plans therein.

11. Calls upon the three Western States to respond to the demands of the regional organisations and the proposals regarding the peaceful settlement of the crisis and the flexibility shown by the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya which has suffered heavy human and material losses affecting not only the Libyan people but also nations of several OIC Member Countries.

12. Requests the Secretary General to follow up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Member States.

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RESOLUTION NO. 14/23-P ON THE SITUATION IN CYPRUS

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Reaffirming the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences on the question of Cyprus which express firm support for the rightful cause of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus who constitutes an integral part of the Islamic world;

Reiterating its support for the efforts of the UN Secretary General under his mission of good offices towards a negotiated settlement mutually acceptable to both sides;

Welcoming, in this context, the acceptance by the Turkish Cypriot side of the package of confidence building measures suggested by the UN Secretary General following his assessment of November 1992 that it would be difficult to achieve any success in the negotiations towards a comprehensive settlement as long as the current crisis of confidence between the two sides continues;

Noting that there had been sufficient progress for the United Nations to implement the package of confidence building measures on the basis outlined in the UN Secretary General's complementary report of 28 June 1994 concerning his mission of good offices;

Considering that the excessive rearmament of the Greek Cypriot side deepens further the existing mistrust between the two sides and constitutes a threat to peace and stability in the island;

Recalling that in the more than 30 years since the establishment of UNFICYP, it has not been possible to achieve a negotiated settlement of the Cyprus problem;

Mindful of the necessity to respect the full equality of the two sides in Cyprus in order to facilitate the efforts towards an overall settlement;

Recalling its resolution adopted at the 20th Session as well as the resolution adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference which decided the enhancement of the participation of the Turkish Muslim community of Cyprus in the OIC;

Noting in this regard its resolution adopted at the 22nd Session as well as the resolution No.14/7-P (IS) adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

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Noting with appreciation the report of the Secretary General contained in document No. ICFM/22-94/PIL/D.9;

Appreciating the economic study on the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus undertaken by the Islamic Development Bank;

Having considered in this context the request of the Turkish Cypriot side for full membership in the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Expressing its solidarity with the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus and its appreciation for their constructive efforts to attain a just and mutually acceptable settlement;

1. Reaffirms the total equality of the two parties in Cyprus as the principle enabling them to live side-by-side in security, peace and harmony without the one having the ability to exploit, oppress or threaten the other.

2. Urges the Member States to strengthen effective solidarity with the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus and to increase and expand their relations in all fields and in particular in the fields of trade, tourism, culture, information, investment and sports.

3. Decides to support until the Cyprus problem is solved, the rightful claim of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus for the right to be heard in all international fora where the Cyprus problem comes up for discussion, on the basis of equality of the two parties in Cyprus.

4. Requests the Secretary General to carry out the necessary contacts with the Islamic Development Bank with a view to seeking the ways and means of the latter's assistance for the development projects of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus.

5. Considers that building of mutual confidence between the two parties in the island is essential to make progress towards an overall settlement of the question.

6. Calls on the two parties to cooperate fully with the UN Secretary General to achieve agreement for implementing the confidence building measures and to resume direct talks without any precondition.

7. Decides to remain seized of the request of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus.

8. Requests the Secretary General to take all necessary measures for the implementation of this Resolution and to make further recommendations as appropriate.

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9. Requests further the Secretary General to monitor closely developments in Cyprus and to present a comprehensive report to the Twenty-Fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 15/23-P
ON
THE COMORIAN ISLAND OF MAYOTTE

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the Islamic Summit and Foreign Ministers Conferences on the Comorian Island of Mayotte as well as the relevant UN General Assembly resolutions affirming the territorial unity of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros which is composed of four Islands: Grande-Comore, Mayotte, Moheli and Anjouan;

Bearing in mind the pledges made by France on the eve of the referendum for self-determination of 22 December 1974 held in the Comoros, to respect the territorial integrity of the Archipelago on its accession to independence;

Convinced that a just and lasting solution to the question of Mayotte is to be found in respect for the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the Comoro Archipelago;

Also bearing in mind the wish expressed by the President of France during his visit to Moroni on 13-14 June 1990, to seek actively a just solution to the problem;

Taking note of the repeated wish of the Government of the Comoros to initiate as soon as possible a frank and serious dialogue with the French Government and the representatives of the inhabitants of Mayotte with a view to accelerating the return of the Comorian Island of Mayotte to the Islamic Federal Republic of Comoros;

Considering that the separation of the Island of Mayotte from the other Comorian Islands constitutes a grave violation of the territorial integrity of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros, and is a serious impediment to the harmonious economic development of that country;

Bearing in mind also the decisions of the Organization of African Unity, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the United Nation's General Assembly on this question;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on the subject, (Document No.ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.10);

1. Reaffirms the unity and territorial integrity of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros and its sovereignty over the Comorian Island of Mayotte.

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2. _Expresses_ its active solidarity with the Comorian people and supports the Comorian Government in its political and diplomatic efforts to effectively restore the Island to its natural entity.

3. _Urges_ the Government of France to accelerate the process of negotiations with the Government of the Comoros with a view to ensuring the effective and prompt return of the Island of Mayotte to the Comoros;

4. _Calls upon_ the Member States to use their influence with France collectively and individually so as to induce it to accelerate the negotiations with the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros on the basis of the national unity and territorial integrity of that country.

5. _Rejects_ any idea of dividing the island into departments, such idea being contrary to all international resolutions and to the solution of the problem by means of negotiations in conformity with the will of the Presidents of France and Comoros.

6. _Invites_ the Secretary General to continue his contacts with the French authorities in order to convey to them the deep concern of the OIC over this problem, to follow the developments in this regard in coordination with the Secretaries General of the UN and the OAU and to submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 16/23-P
ON
DEVELOPMENTS TAKING PLACE IN THE WORLD, ESPECIALLY IN EASTERN AND CENTRAL EUROPE AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling Resolutions No.36/19-P, 19/20-P, 16/21-P and 17/22-P adopted by the Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-First, Twenty-Second Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers and Resolution No.17/7-P(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference on the developments taking place in the world especially in Eastern and Central Europe and their effects on the Islamic World as well as the Dakar Declaration adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit;on Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers on the developments taking place in the world especially in Eastern and Central Europe and their effects on the Islamic world as well as the Dakar Declaration adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General and of the Reflection Committee on this subject (Document No.ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.12);

Recognizing that the current international situation is characterized by instability and uncertainty especially for the developing countries;

Being Aware that the present situation requires the Islamic States to contribute effectively towards the establishment of a New World Order based on justice and equality for all, which should be an objective of Joint Islamic Action within the framework of the OIC;

Having taken cognizance of the current developments in the world in general and in Eastern and Central Europe and Central Asia in particular in the political, economic and social fields, and the repercussions thereof on the Muslim Ummah;

Deeply concerned over the situation in the Balkans arising from Serbian aggressive and expansionist policies which threaten the peace and security of the region as a whole;

Taking note of the fact that developments in Eastern and Central Europe in the political, economic and social fields and the growing interdependence between East and West have led to increase in the flow of financial resources to East European countries and its implications for the Islamic world;

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Expressing concern over the immigration of and the settlement of European and other nationals of the Jewish faith in the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories.

1. Reaffirms the need to maintain and promote ties of friendship and cooperation between the Islamic world and the countries of Eastern and Central Europe on the basis of mutual interests.

2. Expresses the hope that strengthening of economic relations between Eastern and Western Europe would not affect the order of priorities in respect of economic cooperation and trade exchanges between those countries and Islamic countries, nor have a negative impact on the flow of financial resources extended by the advanced countries, whether Eastern or Western, for financing development in Muslim and Third world countries.

3. Also Expresses the hope that the States of Eastern and Western Europe and other States respect and protect the Islamic identity of the Muslim communities and/or Muslim minorities living in their countries and their right to practice freely their language, religion and culture.

4. Warns against the perilous consequences of the transfer and settlement of European and other nationals of Jewish faith in the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, and its negative impact on the peace process, all of which increase tension in the Middle East region and threaten international peace and security.

5. Requests the OIC Secretary General to closely monitor the political and economic situation in the Eastern and Central European countries with special reference to the condition of Muslims and Muslim communities in these countries and present regular reports to the OIC Meetings. The effect of the situation on Muslim countries may also be indicated, alongwith recommendations and proposed action by Member States.

6. Calls on the Secretary General to visit the region from time to time to contact the governments and members of the Muslim communities to ascertain their condition and enlighten them about the OIC.

7. Also requests that the IDB may, in association with international/regional financial institutions, draw up a study of the economic circumstances of the region, western concerns and interests, and their implications for the Muslim countries. They may make recommendations on possibilities of interaction of their economies with the Member States.

8. Recommends that the OIC Member States, belonging to the region, may be included in the meetings of the

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Reflection Committee so as to obtain meaningful inputs in the proceeding of the Meeting.

9. Invites the Reflection Committee to continue to hold regular experts meetings to follow up the developments in the international situation especially in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia and requests the Reflection Committee to hold annual Ministerial Meetings, if possible, during the Coordination Meeting in New York and to consider at its first meeting ways and means of implementation of its concepts and ideas and to report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

10. Approves the recommendations contained in the Report of the Meeting of the Reflection Committee entrusted with the subject of the new developments in the international situation specially in Central and Eastern Europe and other regions (RC/3-95/Rep.1) and calls upon the Member States to cooperate and contribute by implementing these proposals and recommendations.

11. Requests the Secretary General to continue to follow up the developments in the international situation especially in Central and Eastern Europe and the other regions, and report on the impact of these developments on the role of OIC, as well as the recommendations of the Reflection Committee to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 17/23-P
ON THE
SECURITY AND SOLIDARITY OF ISLAMIC STATES

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the resolve of Member States expressed in accordance with the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Conference to unite their efforts in order to secure universal peace which ensures security, freedom and justice for their people and all peoples throughout the world;

Recalling also the purposes and principles of the UN Charter;

Mindful of the objectives and principles enshrined in the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, especially the objectives of promoting Islamic solidarity among Member States and strengthening their capacity to safeguard their security, sovereignty, independence and national rights;

Recalling Resolutions 16/11-P, 19/13-P, 17/14-P, 31/15-P, 20/16-P, 24/17-P, 19/18-P, 20/19-P, 13/20-P, 17/21-P, and 18/22-P on the Security and Solidarity of Islamic States adopted by the Eleventh, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-first and Twenty-second Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers;

Recalling also resolution 18/7-P (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference in this respect;

Stressing the right of every Member State to maintain its national security, sovereignty and territorial integrity;

Bearing in mind the recommendations of the inter-governmental experts' group set up to study this matter;

Taking into account the rapid and profound changes taking place in the system of international relations and its impact on different regions and states throughout the world;

Considering the continued occupation of Palestine, Al-Quds Al-Sharif and of the other Arab territories and the continued denial of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people as constituting a serious threat to the security of Islamic States and world peace;

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Expressing its deep concern at the threats to the security of Member States and proliferation of crises and conflicts affecting Islamic countries and peoples as well as at the threats and challenges to the solidarity of the Islamic Ummah in all spheres of life and reaffirming the necessity to safeguard the Islamic values and identity;

Recalling the provisions of the Dakar Declaration adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit which affirms the resolve of Member States to contribute actively towards the establishment of a New International Order based on peace and progress and respect for international legality and capable of guaranteeing justice and equality for all;

Determined to vigorously oppose foreign domination, aggression, alien occupation, hegemonism and spheres of influence, which result in the limitation of the freedom of member States to determine their own political systems and pursue economic, social and cultural development without any coercion, intimidation and pressure from outside;

Emphasizing the absolute right of each Member State to preserve its natural resources and to use them for the benefit, welfare and progress of their people;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary General to the Conference on the Security and Solidarity of Islamic States (ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.13);

Also taking note of the report submitted by the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on the Security and Solidarity of Islamic States which was constituted by the Secretary General in implementation of Resolution 18/7-P (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

1. Reiterates that the security of each Muslim country is the concern of all Islamic countries.

2. Firmly resolves to strengthen the security of Member States, through cooperation and solidarity among Islamic countries, in accordance with the objectives and principles of the Charters of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and of the United Nations and as stipulated in the Dakar Declaration.

3. Reaffirms the permanent and full sovereignty of the Islamic countries and peoples over their natural resources and economic activities.

4. Expresses the determination of the Member States to preserve and promote Islamic values in all spheres of life especially those of solidarity and mutual respect;

5. Reaffirms the need for respect of the principles of international law concerning the sovereignty,

political independence and territorial integrity of States, non-use of force in international relations, peaceful settlement of disputes and non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of States as essential prerequisites for the security of Islamic States.

6. Notes with appreciation the proposals and recommendations contained in the First Meeting of the Inter-governmental Group of Experts entrusted with the subject of the security and solidarity of Islamic States and requests the Member States to send to the General Secretariat their observations and views regarding this resolution.

7. Requests the Secretary General to call a meeting of the Inter-governmental Group of Experts at an early date so as to renew the resolutions and proposals it had adopted at its previous meeting.

8. Requests the Secretary General also to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a Report on the subject to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 18/23-P
ON THE
QUESTION OF CONFIDENCE AND SECURITY BUILDING MEASURES AMONG ISLAMIC STATES

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling Resolution No. 24/17-P as well as all relevant resolutions adopted by Islamic Conferences since the 17th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the question of Confidence and Security Building Measures among Islamic States;

Recognising that confidence and security building measures, especially when applied in a comprehensive manner, have a potential to contribute significantly to the enhancement of peace, security and stability;

Emphasizing the importance of the establishment and maintenance of security, peace and stability throughout the Islamic World and of strengthening the climate of mutual confidence and solidarity among Islamic Countries and cooperation in all fields between them;

Noting the encouraging results of specific confidence and security building measures agreed upon and implemented in some regions;

Mindful of the fact that there are situations peculiar to specific regions which have a bearing on the nature of the confidence and security building measures feasible in these regions;

Bearing in mind the conclusion and recommendations of the Group of Five Eminent Personalities on the question of confidence and security building measures among Islamic countries;

Referring to the report of the Disarmament Commission containing the agreed text of the "Guidelines for appropriate types of confidence building measures and for the implementation of such measures on a global or regional level" endorsed by the UN General Assembly Resolution 43/78 H;

Considering that regional security and cooperation arrangements among Muslim States in each region can enhance confidence and provide mechanisms where security concerns and preoccupations can be aired and resolved among States of each region;

Recalling the Dakar Declaration adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference;

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Taking note of the Report of the Secretary General on the subject (Document No.ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.13);

1. _Reiterates_ the resolve of Member States to encourage, wherever appropriate, the initiation of confidence and security building measures, bilaterally or at the sub-regional levels in conformity with the provisions and principles contained in the Dakar Declaration.

2. _Invites_ the Member States to develop and formulate concrete proposals on confidence and security building measures and submit them to the Group of Governmental Experts.

3. _Requests_ the Group of Governmental Experts concerned with the topic of the Security and Solidarity of the Islamic States, to draw up and draft specific proposals on the measures of confidence building and to submit them to the Member States so as to obtain their observations and views thereon.

4. _Requests_ the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and to report, on the subject, to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 19/23-P ON THE SECURITY OF SMALL STATES

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the resolve of the member States expressed in the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to unite their efforts in order to secure universal peace which ensures security, freedom and justice for their people and all peoples in the World;

Recalling also the principles and objectives of the UN Charter;

Further Recalling the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 44/51 entitled "Protection and Security of Small States", adopted at the 44th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in 1989;

Mindful of the principles and objectives enshrined in the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, especially the objectives of promoting Islamic solidarity among Member States and strengthening their capacity to safeguard their sovereignty, independence and national rights;

Seriously concerned at the threats posed by mercenaries to small States;

Recollecting with deep concern the various incidents in which groups of mercenaries have attempted to infringe upon the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and the Islamic heritage of small States, including the attempted invasion of Maldives in November 1988 and the interference in the Federal Islamic Republic of Comoros in 1989;

Recalling Resolution No.19/21-P adopted by the Twenty-first Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the subject;

Expressing sorrow and deep concern over the violent abortive coup d'Etat carried out by mercenary forces against the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros in September 1995;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary General on the subject (Document No.ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.13);

Bearing in mind the Report of the First Meeting of the Group of Five Eminent Personalities on the Question of the Security of Small States and the solidarity of Islamic Ummah in safeguarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of small states from threats posed by actions of mercenaries;

1. Requests Member States to give due consideration to the observations and recommendations made by the Group of Five Eminent Personalities on the subject and to submit their views to the General Secretariat.

2. Reiterates that the security of each Muslim country is the concern of all Islamic countries.

3. Recognizes that small States are particularly vulnerable to external threats and acts of interference in their internal affairs.

4. Expresses its profound thanks to the international community, the UN and all regional and international organizations which took the initiative to condemn the aggressive attempted coup d'etat perpetrated by mercenaries against the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros in September 1995, and specially thanks the Republic of France for its quick intervention to put an end to the attempted coup and restore stability and security to the Comoro Islands.

5. Calls upon the Member States to provide assistance, when requested by small Member States, to strengthen their security in accordance with the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter.

6. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a Report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 20/23-P
ON THE
DEVELOPMENTS IN THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AND STEPS TAKEN FOR GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE SECURITY OF ISLAMIC STATES

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Guided by the objectives of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference as regards consolidation of international peace and security on the basis of justice, and reaffirming its commitment to the purposes of the United Nations Charter in safeguarding international peace and security;

Considering that the United Nations, pursuant to the provisions of its Charter, has a major role and responsibility in the field of disarmament and promotion of international security, as well as of protection of future generations from the calamities of war;

Noting that the current international situation requires that the principles of disarmament as contained in the United Nations Charter become a fundamental element in any collective effort designed to bring about a truly secure world and protect mankind from the threat of weapons of mass-destruction, particularly nuclear weapons;

Recalling in this regard the adoption by the General Assembly on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, and emphasizing the increasing importance of this relationship in the context of the current developments in international relations;

Convinced of the need to promote international peace and security founded on the principles and objectives of the United Nations Charter rejecting the threat or use of force and calling for respect of the territorial integrity and national independence of States, non-interference in their internal affairs, and the right of peoples living under the yoke of foreign domination and colonialism to self-determination, and based also on the elimination of occupation, aggression, annexation, and all forms of racial discrimination;

Recognizing the importance of equitable and balanced disarmament measures, which guarantee the right of every State to balanced security;

Acknowledging that the independence, territorial integrity, regional security and sovereignty of the

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non-nuclear-weapon States should be ensured through credible guarantees against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

Deeply concerned at the threats posed to peace and security in the Middle East in view of the possession, by Israel, of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and related delivery systems, and at their continued aggressive and expansionist policies against the peoples of the Middle East;

Recalling the resolution of the International Atomic Energy Agency No.601 of 25 September 1992 regarding the application of the Agency's Safeguards System in the Middle East;

Welcoming the initiatives of Member States relating to the establishment of a Zone free from weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East, notably nuclear weapons;

Recognizing that the establishment of mass-destruction-weapon-free Zones constitutes an important disarmament measure, which helps in easing tension and achieving security and stability in these Zones, particularly in the Middle East region;

Welcoming the approval of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) of the PALINDABA Agreement on the establishment of a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone in Africa on 23 June, 1995;

Recalling the Final Communiques and resolutions on disarmament adopted by the Islamic Conferences, in particular Resolution 21/7-P (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference and the resolutions and recommendations of the Non-Aligned Movement in this respect;

And taking note of the Secretary General's report on the disarmament issues submitted to the Conference (Doc. ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.14);

1. Calls for the elimination of all weapons of mass destruction, notably nuclear weapons with a view to creating a world free of such weapons and for the intensification of efforts aimed at finding a solution to disarmament issues as a whole, particularly the elimination of nuclear weapons.

2. Emphasizes the need to conduct negotiations within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament according to the priorities specified in the Plan of Action of the Final Document of the Tenth UN General Assembly Special Session;

3. Deems it necessary that all States be afforded an opportunity to participate on an equal footing in the

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work of the Conference on Disarmament so as to ensure universal representation.

4. Considers that all States have an inalienable right to develop their programmes for peaceful uses of nuclear energy for their economic and social development and that all States are entitled to have access to the technology and equipment needed for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

5. Emphasizes the importance of ensuring the adherence of all States to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and requests the States with nuclear weapons to implement their obligations to which they have committed themselves in the resolutions adopted by the Conference on the Review and Extension of the Non-Proliferation Treaty held in New York during the months of April and May 1995.

6. Requests all Nuclear States or those which have nuclear weapons to stop all nuclear tests by taking into consideration the harmful effects on the environment and international peace, and calls for the speedy conclusion of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

7. Requests the Member States to intensify their efforts at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva for the formation of an Ad-hoc committee for drawing up a time-table for the phasing out of nuclear weapons with a view to their total elimination.

8. Welcomes the initiatives of some Member States for the establishment of a Zone free from all weapons of mass destruction notably nuclear weapons in the Middle East, within the framework of the United Nations, and calls for an early establishment of such a Zone. In this context, it notes with satisfaction and appreciation the comprehensive Egyptian recommendations announced on 4 July 1991 aimed at expediting the establishment of the Middle East as a zone free of all weapons of mass destruction.

9. Calls upon the Conference on Disarmament to intensify its efforts to come to an early agreement on concluding an international convention providing non-nuclear-weapon States with credible guarantees against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

10. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 21/23-P
ON THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPON FREE ZONES IN AFRICA, THE MIDDLE EAST, SOUTH ASIA AND SOUTH EAST ASIA

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling that the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in various regions of the world is one of the measures which can most effectively guarantee the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, as well as contribute to the achievement of general and complete disarmament;

Convinced that the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in various regions will serve to protect the States of such regions against the threat or use of Nuclear Weapons;

Recalling that the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly recommended the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia;

Also recalling the resolutions adopted by various Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers, and Resolution 22/7-P (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, on the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia;

Recalling as well, all relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its Fiftieth Session on this subject;

Bearing in mind the Declaration on Denuclearization of Africa adopted by the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its First Ordinary Session held in Cairo from 17 to 21 July 1964;

Noting the statements made at the highest level by Governments of South Asian States pledging themselves not to acquire or manufacture nuclear weapons and to devote their nuclear programmes exclusively to the economic and social development of their peoples.

Welcoming the proposal for the conclusion of a bilateral or regional nuclear test ban agreement in South Asia as well as the proposal to convene under the UN auspices of a Conference on nuclear non-proliferation in South Asia.

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Welcoming also the proposal to hold consultations among five nations with a view to ensuring nuclear non-proliferation in South Asia;

1. _Notes_ the Report of the Secretary General on the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia (Document ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.14).

2. _Welcomes_ the adoption by the Organization of African Unity of Palindaba Agreement on the establishment of a nuclear weapons free zone in Africa, on 23 June, 1995;

3. _Calls_ upon all States, particularly the States of the Regions concerned, to respond positively to proposals for the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia.

4. _Reaffirms_ the determination of Member States to take measures to prevent nuclear proliferation on a non-discriminatory and universal basis.

5. _Urges_ all States especially nuclear weapon States to exert pressure on Israel to become party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and _calls on_ the international community and the Security Council to compel Israel to comply with U.N. Resolutions, particularly Security Council Resolution 487 (1981), to accede to the treaty of Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to implement the resolutions of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) calling for the subjection of all Israeli Atomic facilities to the IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards System, to obtain Israel's renunciation of nuclear armament, and to submit a full report on its stockpile of nuclear weapons and ammunition to the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency as those steps are essential for the establishment of a zone free from weapons of mass destruction, and primarily nuclear weapons in the Middle East region, a fundamental factor for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

6. _Welcomes_ the various proposals made by Pakistan to keep the South Asian region free of nuclear weapons including the proposed five-nation consultations to ensure nuclear non-proliferation in the region.

7. _Also welcomes_ the decision of the ASEAN States to work towards the realization of a South East Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone.

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8. Requests all member States to cooperate at the United Nations and other relevant international fora to promote the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia.

9. Requests the Secretary General to follow developments in this regard and report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 22/23-P
ON
THE STRENGTHENING OF THE SECURITY OF NON-NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES AGAINST THE USE OR THREAT OF USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Deeply concerned over the existence of significant nuclear arsenals in the world and the possibility of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

Taking into consideration that it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures to ensure the security of non-nuclear weapon states against the threat or use of nuclear weapons, whatever their origin;

Recognizing that effective measures to protect non-nuclear weapon states against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons may positively contribute to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;

Firmly believes that the most effective guarantee for non-Nuclear States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is the total elimination of all nuclear weapons;

Recalling the efforts made since 1968 to evolve effective and credible security assurances to Non- Nuclear Weapon States;

Noting that these measures have failed to provide credible assurances to non-nuclear weapon states against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers, in particular Resolution 23/7-P (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, recalling the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly as well as the decision of the Tenth Conference of Heads of State and Government of the the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries held in Jakarta from 1 to 6 September 1992, and the decision of the Eleventh Ministerial Meeting of NAM held in Cairo in 1994 and the Final Document of the Eleventh Conference of the Presidents and Heads of Government of NAM, held in Cartagena (Colombia) on 18-20 October 1995; on the need for assurances by nuclear powers to non-nuclear weapon states to the effect that the former shall not resort to the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against them;

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Further recalling that the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly had called upon nuclear weapon states to conclude urgently arrangements to assure non-nuclear states against the threat or use of nuclear weapons;

Noting that the UN General Assembly at its latest Session recommended that the Conference on Disarmament should actively continue intensive negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear weapon states against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an International Convention;

Noting the adoption of Security Council Resolution No. 684 which unanimously approved on 11 April, 1995 as well as the Declaration issued by the nuclear weapon States on the positive and negative security guarantees for the non-nuclear weapon States;

Expressing deep concern over the threat of use of nuclear weapons against the Islamic States;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary General on the subject (Document No.ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.14);

Notes the non-existence of opposition, in principle, within the Conference of Disarmament to the early conclusion and on the basis of just criteria, of an international convention to protect non-nuclear weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons.

1. Requests the Member States of the Conference on Disarmament, particularly the nuclear weapon States, to work urgently towards a binding agreement on an international convention to assure non-nuclear weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons and to explore all additional means to provide effective assurances to Non-Nuclear Weapon States in the global or regional context.

2. Recommends that the Islamic States make efforts at all international fora with a view to promoting the above-mentioned objectives aimed at strengthening the security of non-nuclear weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons.

3. Urges all States, especially the nuclear weapons states, to engage in serious negotiations in competent international fora for the early conclusion of a comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

4. Urges the Conference on Disarmament for the immediate commencement and early conclusion of negotiations on a non-discriminatory and universally applicable

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convention banning the production and stockpiling of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosives.

5. Also urges the Conference on Disarmament to give priority attention to all other issues on its agenda, particularly to the early commencement of negotiations on nuclear disarmament.

6. Requests the Secretary General to follow developments in this respect and report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 23/23-P
ON THE
REGIONAL ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Believing that the efforts of the international community to move towards the ideal of general and complete disarmament are guided by the desire for genuine peace and security, the elimination of the danger of war and the release of economic, intellectual and other resources for peaceful pursuits;

Affirming the commitment of all Member States to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charters of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations in the conduct of their international relations;

Noting that the unbridled regional arms race and arms build up impedes efforts for confidence building;

Noting that the essential guidelines for progress towards general and complete disarmament were adopted at the Tenth Special Session of the UN General Assembly vide its Resolution No. S-10/2;

Recalling Resolution 47/52 J (1992) adopted by the 47th Session of the United Nations General Assembly;

Welcoming the prospects of genuine progress in the field of disarmament which appeared in recent years;

Recognizing the importance of confidence building measures for regional and international peace and security;

Recalling resolutions No.23/21-P and 24/22-P adopted by the Twenty-first and Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers as well as Resolution 24/7-P (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference on the subject;

Convinced that endeavours by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of smaller States and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts;

Taking note of the report of the Secretary General submitted to the Conference in this respect. (Document No. ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.14);

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1. Stresses that sustained efforts are needed, within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament and under the umbrella of the United Nations, to make progress on the entire range of disarmament issues.

2. Affirms that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should therefore be pursued to promote regional and international peace and security.

3. Encourages the conclusion of equitable and non-discriminatory agreements for nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and confidence-building at regional and sub-regional levels.

4. Welcomes the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and sub-regional levels.

5. Supports and encourages efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at regional and sub-regional levels in order to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and non-proliferation measures at regional and sub-regional levels, taking into account the relevant characteristics of each region.

6. Considers that regional agreements on ceilings for arms production and purchases and military expenditure can contribute to fostering confidence and making resources available for development, taking into consideration the circumstances of each region.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow developments in this respect and report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 24/23-P
ON THE
REGIONAL MILITARY BALANCE

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the resolve of the Member States expressed in accordance with the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Conference to unite their efforts in order to secure universal peace which ensures freedom, justice and security for their people and all peoples throughout the world;

Recalling also the purposes and principles of the UN Charter;

Bearing in mind the need for redressing the asymmetries in the levels of security arising from military imbalances at regional and sub-regional levels;

Recalling Resolutions 24/21-P and 25/22-P issued by the Twenty-first and Twenty-second Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers and Resolution No. 25/7-P(IS) adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit on this subject;

Taking note of the report of the Secretary General submitted to the Conference in this respect. (Document No. ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.14);

1. Recognizes the need for enhancing regional security and stability through the settlement of outstanding disputes and the establishment of equitable and verifiable balance of armaments at lower levels.

2. Calls upon the international community and states concerned to adopt measures which would ease global and regional tensions and result in a just and lasting resolution of outstanding conflicts and disputes thus facilitating meaningful disarmament and arms control measures.

3. Requests the Secretary General to submit a report on the subject to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 25/23-P
ON
SUPPORT FOR COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION AMONG ISLAMIC STATES

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

In application of the teachings and noble principles of the glorious Islamic religion which urge the consolidation of solidarity and fraternity among the members of the unified Islamic Ummah and enjoins opposition to sedition;

Faithful to the objectives and principles enunciated in the Charter notably provisions of Article II relating to the strengthening of solidarity and non interference in the internal affairs of Member States;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject (Document No. ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.15) which stressed the need to strengthen solidarity among Member States on the basis of mutual respect and commitment to non-interference in the internal affairs of one another, and support for the causes of freedom, justice and peace;

Recalling the resolutions of the Third Islamic Summit Conference which stressed the need to strengthen solidarity among Member States on the basis of mutual respect and commitment to non-interference in the internal affairs of one another, and support for the causes of freedom, justice and peace;

Recalling also Resolution 16/6-P(IS) and the provisions of the Dakar Declaration adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference on the subject;

Taking note of the recommendations and proposals of the Reflection Committee, the Group of Eminent Personalities and the Intergovernmental Experts Group as well as the recommendations of the Second Meeting of the Experts Group on Correcting the Image of Islam in the Outside World, in this respect;

Recalling also resolutions 26/22-P and 26/7-P(IS) of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, respectively, in this respect;

1. Calls upon Member States to observe the principles of good neighbourliness, and to prevent the use of their territories or government bodies by individuals or groups bent on doing harm to other Member States.

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2. Decides that no movement exploiting the noble Islamic religion should be allowed to carry out any hostile activity against any Member State, and reaffirms the necessity of consolidating coordination among Member States so as to control the phenomenon of terrorism in all its manifestations and forms including intellectual terrorism and extremism.

3. Stresses the need to continue to strengthen cooperation and coordination among Member States at all levels, and to further their consultation so as to remove all causes of dissension and promote understanding among them.

4. Invites the Secretary General and the Reflection Committee to study this topic and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 26/23-P
ON
ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLES OF THE SAHEL

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Noting with satisfaction that the problems of drought and famine in the States of the African Sahel have continued to receive the close attention of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Also noting with satisfaction that the Sixth Islamic Summit held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, in December 1991, urged Member States and OIC institutions to strengthen their cooperation with CILSS and welcomed the progress made by CILSS in preparing a coherent plan aimed at protecting the Sahelian peoples and their economic potentialities against the effects of drought and desertification which are hampering the development process of Sahelian countries;

Having taken cognizance of resolution 27/7-P(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit on Islamic Solidarity with the Peoples of the Sahel;

Taking into account the need for the urgent implementation of the OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme for the Sahel, which could be compromised if not implemented as soon as possible;

Taking note of the Secretary General's report which reviewed, inter alia, the steps already taken in the elaboration and approval of the OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme (ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.16);

1- Expresses its appreciation of the efforts made by the OIC General Secretariat, CILSS and the IDB for the elaboration and finalization of the OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme for the Sahel.

2- Reaffirms the necessity to devote greater attention to the speedy implementation of the Special OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme for the Sahelian populations.

3- Appeals urgently to Member States to contribute generously and substantially to the funding of the OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme in favour of the Sahel Populations so as to crystallize the OIC Member States' solidarity with these populations, alleviate their sufferings and ensure sustained development in the Sahel region.

4- Welcomes the offer made by the State of Kuwait to host the meeting of the Expert Group charged with the

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task of studying the new programme and expressed its hope that this meeting could be held as soon as possible.

5- Requests the Secretary General to follow developments in this regard and to submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 27/23-P ON THE CRITICAL ECONOMIC SITUATION IN AFRICA

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, in particular resolution 15/5-P (IS) of the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference and the relevant provisions of the Dakar Declaration adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference;

Emphasizing that the African development crisis is of deep concern to the entire Islamic Ummah;

Noting with appreciation the positive response of the international community, particularly the Islamic countries, to the economic difficulties being faced by the continent of Africa;

Realizing that the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 adopted by the Special Session of the General Assembly in May 1986 did not become the focal point for economic policy or for resources mobilization for the African development efforts;

Deeply concerned that despite the reform and restructuring being undertaken by the African countries, their economic development continues to be impeded, inter-alia, by an unfavourable economic environment, inadequate flow of resources and a heavy debt burden;

Recalling that the U.N. General Assembly adopted at its 46th Session the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990's;

Taking note of the Secretary General's report on this subject (Document No.ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.17);

1. Welcomes the efforts made by the African countries towards their economic recovery and development in conformity with the Treaty of Abuja concluded in 1991 establishing the African Economic Community aimed at progressive economic integration of Africa.

2. Stresses the importance of the successful implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990's and calls upon the international community to fulfil its commitments on the basis of the principle of shared responsibility and full partnership with Africa.

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3. Expresses appreciation for the countries which have provided assistance to Africa through bilateral or multilateral channels.

4. Calls upon the international community, particularly the developed countries and the concerned international financial agencies, to make a substantial contribution to the objectives of African Economic Recovery and Development, inter-alia, by an increase in financial flows, especially concessional flows, to Africa, particularly to sub-Saharan countries, through measures for an increase in Africa's export earnings and a reduction in the adverse impact on African economies of fluctuations in those earnings and through measures to limit and reduce the burden that external debt imposes on African recovery, reform and development.

5. Calls upon Member States to increase their assistance to the countries of Africa in order to enable them to initiate and implement the necessary structural changes required to hasten their economic development.

6. Invites the international community to strengthen its support of Africa's efforts to diversify its commodity sector as well as for market promotion activities and export.

7. Recommends that Member States and the international community give special attention to providing continued assistance in the sector of agriculture in order to enable the countries of Africa to achieve self-sufficiency as soon as possible.

8. Urges the developed countries and international financial institutions to give special attention to alleviating the extreme debt burden of the African States.

9. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 28/23-P
ON THE
REPARATIONS FOR COLONIALISM AND THE AFTER EFFECTS OF WAR

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling Resolutions No.29/14-P, No. 38/19-P, No. 28/20-P, No.30/21-P and 29/22-P of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers as well as Resolution No.17/6-P(IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference and Resolution 29/7-P (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference on reparations for damages caused by colonialism, and after effects of wars, particularly mines ;

Recalling also Resolution No.32 of the 5th Summit Conference of Non-Aligned States, held in Colombo from 16 to 19 August, 1976 concerning the after effects of wars;

Also referring to the content of the Declaration of the 9th Summit Conference of Non-Aligned States, held in Belgrade, from 4 to 7 September, 1989 on reparations for the period of colonialism;

Also recalling the resolutions of the UN General Assembly and other relevant UN organs on the remnants of war, including mines;

Further recalling the historical precedents on reparations for the damages caused by occupation and war and their sequels, particularly those of two world wars;

Recognizing that the existence of physical remnants of the war, including mines, in the territories of developing countries seriously impedes the developmental efforts of these countries and causes a loss of life and property;

Taking into consideration the decisions of the special meeting on mines held under the auspices of the U.N. in Geneva in August 1995;

Convinced that the responsibility for removing the remnants of wars should fall on the countries that had laid them;

Recognizing that poverty and the obstacles to economic and social development in developing countries are due primarily to the depletion of those countries' economic and human resources by the States which had colonized them;

Also convinced that the effective solution to the problems caused to the developing countries by colonialism,

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occupation or settlement lies in the commitment of former colonial powers to shoulder the responsibility of compensating for the losses suffered by those countries;

Further convinced that reparations for colonialism are the least that former colonial powers can do to rehabilitate the people of the countries they had colonized;

Further convinced that the peoples of the world have a firm desire to end all forms of colonialism;

Taking note of the report of the Secretary General submitted to the Conference in this respect. (Document No. ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.18);

1. Reaffirms its condemnation of colonialism in all its forms as an act of aggression which violates all international conventions and principles of international law.

2. Recognizes that the effects of colonialism have hampered economic and social development plans and programmes in the developing countries and are still impeding these countries' development and progress.

3. Reaffirms the right of all Member States, without exception, which suffered under the yoke of colonialism, to obtain fair compensation for the human and material losses they have suffered as a result of colonialism or foreign invasion.

4. Affirms the right of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahirya for reparations for all the human and material losses it has sustained as a result of the period of Italian invasion and colonization of the Libyan territories.

5. Invites all past and present colonialist powers to shoulder their responsibilities and make reparations for all the economic, social and cultural consequences of their occupation of developing countries.

6. Requests States involved in the Second World War to extend technical and financial assistance as well as the necessary information and requisite maps so as to assist in immediately removing mines left behind by their forces in some areas of Member States, which are still causing extensive damage and impeding the developmental efforts in these areas, and invites the concerned Member States to coordinate among themselves so as to achieve this objective.

7. Affirms the right of all Member States, without exception, which suffered under the yoke of colonialism, to recover their cultural property which was looted during the

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period of colonialism, including antiquities, masterpieces, manuscripts and historical documents, and invites Member States to coordinate among themselves so as to achieve this aim in collaboration with the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO).

8. Urges the international community to take effective measures to prevent the recurrence of colonialism and liquidate its after-effects.

9. Decides to keep this issue under consideration and requests the Secretary General to submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 29/23-P
ON
SUPPORT FOR THE EFFORTS OF SUDAN TO ACHIEVE NATIONAL UNITY, PEACE, AND DEVELOPMENT, AND TO SAFEGUARD ITS IDENTITY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE IN THE FACE OF CURRENT CHALLENGES

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling resolution No. 18/6-P(IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference and Resolution 16/7-P (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, as well as resolutions Nos. 23/18-P, 30/19-P, 24/20-P, 31/21-P and 16/22-P adopted by the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers on supporting the efforts of Sudan to achieve national unity, peace and development, and to safeguard its identity and cultural heritage;

Reaffirming its commitment to the objectives and principles of the OIC Charter on promoting Islamic solidarity among Member States and enhancing their ability to protect their unity, sovereignty, territorial integrity, independence, national rights and spiritual heritage;

Observing that Sudan is facing attacks and designs from numerous hostile foreign quarters aimed at destabilizing Sudan, undermining its unity, and obliterating its cultural identity;

Drawing attention to the public opinion campaigns launched by hostile western circles with the aim of paving the way for intervention in Sudan, through establishment of the so-called security zones, under the guise of humanitarian action;

Expressing deep concern over foreign designs aimed at instigating separatist rebels for demanding self-determination as a prelude to secession of Southern Sudan;

Taking note of the report of the Secretary General submitted to the Conference in this respect. (Document No. ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.11);

1. Reaffirms its complete solidarity with Sudan in confronting hostile designs, and defending its unity, territorial integrity and stability.

2. Commends Sudan's continued efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the problem of Southern Sudan through negotiations and dialogue between various Sudanese parties for achieving its stability and national development.

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3. Expresses its deep appreciation to the Member States which support the efforts of Sudan to safeguard its unity and its national security and cultural heritage.

4. Appeals to Member States to continue to support Sudan's efforts to safeguard its unity, territorial integrity and identity, in conformity with the principles embodied in the Charter and resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

5. Requests the Secretary General to follow up this resolution and report thereon to the Twenth-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 30/23-P
ON
SUPPORT FOR NIGER'S EFFORTS TO CONSOLIDATE ITS NATIONAL UNITY AND ACHIEVE ITS OBJECTIVES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTHERN PASTORAL AREA

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the goals and principles of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference aiming in particular at consolidating Islamic solidarity among Member States and strengthening cooperation between them in the economic, social, cultural and scientific fields as well as in other vital fields;

Taking into consideration the Peace Agreement concluded in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) on 9 October 1994 and signed on 24 April 1995 in Niamey between the Government of the Republic of Niger and the Organiaztion of Armed Resistance;

Convinced of the necessity of providing Niger with the necessary assistance for its economic and social development, the sole guarantee of stability in the Northern Pastoral Area;

1. Expresses satisfaction at the signing of the Peace Agreement.

2. Commends the efforts exerted by mediating countries for their important contribution to the conclusion of this Agreement.

3. Requests Member States, the General Secretariat of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and the other Islamic Institutions to provide Niger with the necessary assistance to enable it to consolidate its national unity and achieve its developmental objectives within the framework of the implementation of the above-mentioned Agreement.

4. Invites the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of the provisions of the present resolution and report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 31/23-P ON THE REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTHERN REGION OF MALI

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Based on resolution No. 19/6-P (IS) adopted by the Sixth Summit entitled "Islamic solidarity with Mali for restoration of peace and development of its Northern Regions" adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 9-11 December, 1991;

Recalling resolution No.29/21-P adopted by the Twenty-first Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Karachi from 25 to 29 April 1993 aimed at achieving the same objective;

Having examined the conclusions of the report of the Mission of the Islamic Solidarity Fund on the implementation of the emergency programme for the rehabilitation of the regions of Timbuctu, Gao and Kidal;

Recalling, on the other hand, resolution No. 33/22-P adopted by the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers requesting Member States and Financial Institutions of the Organization to get more involved in the financing of the Programme of Projects for the strengthening of peace in the Northern region of Mali;

Having taken good note of the positive conclusions arrived at by the Government of Mali and the development partners at their Timbuctu meeting;

Deeply concerned over the lack of financing for this programme;

Convinced that the return of peace, rehabilitation of the displaced people and their socio-economic development cannot be achieved without the support and assistance of friendly countries and institutions;

Recalling the principles and objectives of the Charter of the OIC;

Mindful of Islamic solidarity;

1- *Requests* member states of the Organization and Islamic institutions to provide necessary financial assistance for the emergency programmes and projects for ensuring the return of the refugees, their rehabilitation and the social, economic and cultural development of the Northern Regions of Mali.

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2- Recommends that the Organization and its financial institutions actively support the implementation of the medium and long term development strategy and of the emergency programme in the regions of Kidal, Gao and Timbuctu.

3- Thanks the OIC, the International Islamic Relief Organization (IIRO), the Muslim World League (MWL) and the ISF for their contribution to the efforts of the Government of Mali for the rehabilitation and development of the Northern Regions.

4- Requests the Secretary General to follow up on the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 32/23-P ON THE USE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling Resolution 30/7-P (IS), of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference ;

Bearing in mind the historic contribution of the Islamic civilization in building, enriching and developing human civilization at large;

Conscious of the need for continued active participation in building human civilization and for interacting with it in such a way as to achieve an adequate standard of living, on the basis of mutual understanding among peoples and nations, away from acts of aggression and violations of the principles of the United Nations Charter and international norms;

Proceeding from the inalienable right of peoples to development;

Believing that economic, social and cultural progress is contingent upon the peaceful uses of science and technology on the broadest scale possible, in accordance with the requirements of development;

Conscious that science and technology are the outcome of an integrated human endeavour and that their peaceful applications should be marshalled for the service of the whole of mankind;

Taking note of the recommendations of COMSTECH in its latest session in Islamabad, Report of the Secretary General on the subject (Document No. ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.19);

1. Affirms the inalienable right of the Islamic States to develop, acquire and make use of science and technology for progress in economic, social and cultural fields.

2. Rejects the policies and measures aimed at obstructing the technological progress for peaceful purposes in the Islamic States, as such measures are inconsistent with the legitimate right of all States and peoples to attain an appropriate, modern and civilized standard of living and serve the cause of world peace, security and stability.

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3. Calls upon industrialized States to facilitate the transfer of technology to developing countries and remove the restrictions hindering the transfer of technology to Islamic States in particular.

4. Calls upon Member States to strengthen cooperation among themselves in the fields of science and technology for peaceful purposes, especially in the framework of the Standing Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation.

5. Recommends that Member States consult each other on the measures to be adopted with regard to any State or group of States restricting the transfer of technology to developing countries through a meeting to be convened in this regard by the Secretary General.

6. Requests the Secretary General to monitor the implementation of the present resolution and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-Fourth
Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 33/23-P
ON
THE PROBLEM OF DUMPING OF DANGEROUS NUCLEAR AND TOXIC WASTES IN THE ISLAMIC STATES

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Considering the serious problems arising from the dumping of dangerous toxic wastes in certain Islamic Countries by some industrialized countries;

Deeply concerned at the fact that the dumping of radioactive and toxic waste endangers human life, marine fauna and the ecosystem in general;

Bearing in mind the Code of Practice in the International Transboundary Movement of Radio Active Waste established by the International Atomic Energy Agency;

Also bearing in mind the conclusion, by African States, of the Bamako Convention on the Import of Hazardous Wastes into Africa and control of their transboundary movements within Africa;

Deploring the instances of dumping of toxic wastes in Somalia's territorial waters;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary General on the subject (Document No.ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.20);

1. Affirms that the dumping of toxic and nuclear wastes of foreign origin in Member States is a crime against humanity.

2. Condemns all multinational corporations which engage in this shameful practice of dumping toxic waste thus seriously endangering life and environment on our planet.

3. Invites all the Member States to conduct an intensive campaign to enlighten their respective populations about the devastating effects of toxic waste on human life, fauna and flora.

4. Calls upon all States which produce dangerous and toxic waste to take all the measures necessary for treating and recycling this waste in their own countries.

5. Urges all the Member States to ban all the illegal trans-border movements of dangerous and toxic waste, transported without the necessary safeguards and the prior consent of the importing country.

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6. Requests the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency in particular to intensify efforts to conclude a legally binding instrument on the effective prohibition of any dumping of radioactive or nuclear wastes.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow the developments on this subject and to submit a report to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 34/23-P
ON
THE PROBLEM OF REFUGEES IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling Resolution 32/7-P (IS) adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference on the problem of Refugees;

Deeply concerned over the plight of refugees in many parts of the world, most of whom are members of the Islamic community;

Reaffirming the solidarity of Member States with the countries providing asylum to the refugees, and thus assuming immense political, economic and social burdens, in a spirit of Islamic brotherhood and in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Convinced that solidarity is dictated by the principles of brotherhood and the defence of human rights and human dignity, which are deep-rooted in the Islamic heritage and traditions;

Recalling the mandate of the UNHCR in providing protection and adequate care and maintenance to refugees;

Noting with deep concern the declining levels of international assistance extended to the countries of asylum to help them to continue providing assistance to refugees;

Fully convinced that the lasting solution of the refugee problem consists in providing favourable conditions for their return to their homelands in safety and dignity;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on the subject (Document No.ICFM/23-95/PIL/D.21);

1. Notes with satisfaction the ongoing efforts of the Secretary General to further enhance the capacity of the OIC to provide humanitarian assistance to the refugees in cooperation with the UNHCR.

2. Expresses its appreciation to Member States, donor countries, the UNHCR, the U.N. specialized agencies, and other humanitarian institutions for the valuable assistance they extend to refugees in Islamic countries.

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3. Expresses also its deep appreciation to countries of asylum for their generous assistance to refugees irrespective of their critical economic situation as well as presence of large number of displaced persons.

4. Reaffirms its concern for the security, stability and infrastructure of those Muslim countries whose economic and social development is seriously affected by the presence of refugees.

5. Calls on Member States, to coordinate their action at international level with a view to determining the main causes behind the exodus of refugees to Islamic and other countries and strive, in cooperation with the UNHCR, to enable those refugees to return to their homes whenever circumstances permit.

6. Requests the General Secretariat to prepare a survey regarding the numbers and the situation of the refugees in the Islamic World in coordination with the UNHCR.

7. Decides to set up an Inter-governmental Group of Experts and to convene its first meeting in 1996 to examine the various dimensions of this problem and define ways and means to deal with this issue.

8. Urges Member States and the Islamic Development Bank to increase their assistance to the Islamic countries sheltering refugees given the economic and social difficulties caused by the presence of such refugees.

9. Calls on Member States to cooperate with the UNHCR to end the downward trend of assistance to refugees and to secure additional resources to alleviate the suffering of those refugees in Islamic countries.

10. Urges non-Member States to create better conditions for their Muslim communities, so that they are not forced to escape or are driven out as refugees because of religious, ethnic or racial oppression.

11. Condemns all acts of repression against the refugees, including armed attacks on their camps and pressures on the countries sheltering them.

12. Requests the Secretary General to continue to closely liaise with the countries of asylum and cooperate and coordinate with the UNHCR with a view to intensifying the efforts of the Organization of the Islamic Conference for the alleviation of the plight of the refugees in the Muslim World and to report thereon to the Twenty-Fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 35/23-P
ON
THE ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF SUDAN TO SHELTER REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS

The Twenty-Third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Proceeding from Resolution No. 20/K49 (1994) adopted by the UN General Assembly on extending humanitarian assistance to the Sudan, as well as the Note submitted by the Government of the Sudan on refugees and displaced persons;

Appreciates the efforts exerted by the Government of the Republic of the Sudan on establishing peace within the country which resulted in the return of a large number of Sudanese refugees from the outside affected by the war in Southern Sudan;

Appreciating also the efforts of the Sudanese Government aimed at the reconstruction of the areas to which the Sudanese refugees have returned;

Appreciating the hosting by the Republic of Sudan of over one million refugees from neighbouring States despite the dwindling of the assistance extended to them by the international community and despite the slow process of the voluntary return of these refugees to their countries;

Taking into consideration the migration of large numbers of the citizens of the regions of the Southern Sudan to the North of Sudan escaping from atrocities perpetrated by the rebellious movement;

1- Urges international donors to extend assistance commensurate with the number of the refugees in the Sudan, and also to help in their voluntary repatriation.

2- Invites the Islamic Development Bank to extend financial assistance so as to support the efforts of the Government of the Sudan aimed at resettling returning Sudanese refugees in the areas liberated from the hold of the rebellious movement as well as to provide shelter to the displaced persons who migrated to the North due to the military operations conducted by the rebellious movement.

3- Appeals to all the Member States to extend assistance to the Government of the Sudan so as to overcome the problems of refugees and displaced persons.

4- Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 36/23-P
ON THE
ELIMINATION OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND MINE CLEARING OPERATIONS

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Considering that the use of anti-personnel mines in contravention of the UN Convention of 1980 on inhumane weapons constitutes a serious problem to several Islamic states;

Considering also that anti-personnel mines cause a human tragedy that has lost nothing of its acuteness;

Considering further that states have a moral and political responsibility and are able to put an end to this scourge that dangerously threatens the existence of millions of peaceful people;

Recalling that the OIC, by working towards the elimination of anti-personnel mines, would contribute to the strengthening of world peace and security, one of the organisation's treasured objectives;

Noting that the indiscriminate use of anti-personnel mines results in wanton slaughter and constitutes an affront to humanitarian and civilizational values.

1. Expresses its deep concern over the consequences of the use of anti-personnel mines on the security of civilian populations and their economic development.

2. Takes note with interest of the commitment of international humanitarian organisations, especially the International Committee of the Red Cross to the total elimination of anti-personnel mines.

3. Urges strongly all OIC Member States to intensify and pursue their support for mine clearing operations and to strengthen international cooperation in this field.

4. Requests OIC Member States to take part in the efforts aimed at adopting effective measures to put an end to the indiscriminate use of anti-personnel mines, for their complete elimination.

5. Urges the International Community, particularly the developed countries to provide substantial assistance for the removal of anti-personnel mines and to ensure access by

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all states, especially mine stricken states, to advanced material, equipment and technology as well as to ensure the removal of all existing restrictions in this regard.

6. Earnestly requests the States parties to the 1980 Convention and the International Movement of the Red Cross and Red Crescent to redouble efforts so that further sessions of the examining Conference that will take place in 1996 lead to the adoption of strong measures aimed at putting an end to the indiscriminate use of anti-personnel mines and at taking action towards their elimination.

7. Appreciates the efforts of the International Movement of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent: "the International Committee of Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent and National Societies of Red Cross and Red Crescent", as well as those of other international, regional, and non-government organisations that are involved in the total elimination of anti-personnel mines while stressing that these efforts should take into account the security concerns of the member countries.

8. Requests the OIC Secretary General to put this issue on the agenda of the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and submit a report thereon.

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RESOLUTION NO. 37/23-P
ON THE
GENERAL SITUATION OF MUSLIM COMMUNITIES AND MINORITIES IN NON-OIC MEMBER STATES.

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9 - 12 December, 1995),

Recalling that Muslim communities and minorities living in Non-OIC Member States account for over one third of the Islamic Ummah;

Recalling also the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter, the Resolutions adopted by Islamic Summit Conferences, Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers and international conventions, declarations and agreements, particularly those calling for observance of human rights namely political, social, cultural, economic rights and religious freedoms;

Further recalling UN General Assembly Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief;

Reaffirming its commitment to Muslim communities and minorities living in Non-OIC Member States and expressing its concern at the forms of intolerance towards some of these communities and minorities in particular the western hemosphere;

Condemning persecution and violations, especially those committed by aggression or occupation forces against Muslim communities and minorities in some non-OIC Member States;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on the situation of Muslim Communities and minorities (Document No. ICFM/23-95/MM/D.1/Rev.1);

1. Expresses its appreciation of the Secretary General's Report which contains a comprehensive survey of Islamic Communities and minorities in Non-Member States.

2. Expresses its satisfaction at the efforts exerted by the Secretary General for the implementation of the resolutions adopted on the Islamic Communities and Minorities in Non- Member States and requests the Secretary General to continue his efforts.

3. Urges Member States to keep paying due attention to the Muslim communities and minorities living in Non-OIC Member States, to play an effective role in protecting them, and to do their utmost to induce the countries where they live to recognize their right to full

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citizenship, grant them all their civil and religious rights and treat them equitably in accordance with the principles of human rights and fundamental freedoms stipulated in international instruments and treaties.

4. Expresses its concern at the continuing denial and violation of the fundamental rights and freedoms of the Muslim communities and minorities and urges full respect of all the rights and individual as well as collective freedoms of those communities and minorities.

5. Notes with deep concern that human rights including the freedoms of worship and education, of the Turkish Muslim Minority in Western Thrace, guaranteed under international treaties, continue to be denied and violated and urges that all their rights and freedoms, individual and collective, be fully respected.

6. Calls upon the OIC Member States to carry out individual and collective contacts with Governments of non-OIC-Member States concerned so as to ensure the safety, dignity and integrity for the values and rights of the Muslim communities and minorities and further calls upon the OIC Member States to consult among themselves about action to be taken in cases of violation, suppression, aggression and occupation against Muslim communities and minorities.

7. Also expresses its deep concern at certain recent instances of discrimination and acts of violence against Muslim immigrants in Europe, constituting violation of their human rights including the breach of their freedom of religious and cultural practices. It requests the Secretary General to take appropriate measures to ensure protection of fundamental rights of Muslim immigrants living in Europe, and the preservation of their identity and Islamic heritage and for seeking appropriate solutions to their problems.

8. Pays tribute to all peaceful measures adopted by Muslim Communities to uphold their civil rights and enjoy equitable status in their societies.

9. Appreciates the Secretary General's recent statements which highlighted the anxiety and concern of the Islamic Ummah over the desecration of Islamic Holy Places and requests the Secretary General to continue his efforts aimed at protecting the heritage and sacred values of Islam in non-Member States.

10. Decides to form an open-ended Inter-governmental Group of Experts which is to commence work in 1996 to consider the situation of Muslim Communities and Minorities in Non-Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference as well as to consider the problems faced by these communities and

minorities so as to find appropriate solutions within the framework of respect for the sovereignty of the states in which they live.

11. Requests the Secretary General to prepare a report on this subject and submit it to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 38/23-P ON THE QUESTION OF MUSLIMS IN SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

The Twenty-third Islamic Summit Conference of Foreign Ministers, (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Bearing in mind the previous resolutions and final communiques of the OIC on the question of Muslims in Southern Philippines, particularly para 77 of the Final Declaration of the Eleventh Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Islamabad in 1980, and Resolutions 4/4-P of 1973, 18/5-P of 1974, 2/8-P and 7/8-P of 1977; 20/9-P of 1978, 25/15-P of 1984, 43/19-P of 1990; 33/20-P of 1991, 11/6-P (IS) of 1991 and 3/7-P (IS) of 1994;

Recalling the Final Communique of the Sixth Islamic Summit welcoming the resumption of negotiations between the Moro National Liberation Front and the Government of the Republic of the Philippines under the auspices of the OIC aimed at reaching a political, just and comprehensive solution of the problem in the framework of the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Philippines;

Recalling the Final Communique of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference welcoming the agreement between the participants in the official peace negotiations to focus their talks on the means to fully implement the 1976 Tripoli Agreement, in letter and spirit and that this should include:

a) Those parts of the Agreement left for further subsequent talks;

b) The Transitional Implementing Structure and Mechanism;

Taking into consideration the recommendations of the Ministerial Committee of the Six entrusted by the Organization of the Islamic Conference with the follow up of the question of Muslims in Southern Philippines;

Recalling the Tripoli Agreement signed on 23 December 1976, under the auspices of the OIC, between the Government of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front;

Recalling both Memoranda of Understanding by which the Government of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front have concluded two rounds of preliminary talks, held in Tripoli, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya on 3-4 October, 1992 and in Cipanas, Western Java, Republic of Indonesia on 14-16 April, 1993 respectively;

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Recalling Memorandum of Agreement and Interim Agreements by which the Government of the Republic of Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front had, with the participation of the Ministerial Committee of the Six and the OIC Secretary General, crowned the three successive rounds of the Formal Peace Talks, held in Jakarta, Indonesia during the periods from 25 October to 7 November 1993, 1 to 5 September 1994 and 27 November to 1 December 1995;

Recalling the 1993 Interim Ceasefire Agreement signed by the Government of the Republic of the Phillipines and the Moro National Liberation Front with the participation of the Ministerial Committee of the Six and the OIC Secretary General as well as the Joint Guidelines and Ground Rules for the implementation of the Interim Ceasefire Agreement of 1993;

Recalling the decision of the Second Round of the Formal Peace Talks to deploy the OIC Ceasefire Observer Team from November 1994 and welcoming the positive contribution which this Team has made to the creation of an atmosphere conducive to the peace process;

Encouraged by the recent statements of support made by the European Union and Governments of the United States of America and Japan to the peace process as well as the statement by H.E. President Fidel V. Ramos of the Philippines to resolve the outstanding issues through innovative and fresh approaches;

Recalling the series of intensive meetings held by the Support Committees, the Joint Ceasefire Committee and the Mixed Committee as well as the Ad hoc Working Group on Implementing Structure and Mechanism of the Provisional Government;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on the question of Muslims in Southern Philippines, (Document No.ICFM/23-95/MM/D.2);

1. Expresses its appreciation of the Secretary General's report which contained a comprehensive presentation of the negotiation process between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front.

2. Reaffirms the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences on solidarity with the Muslims in Southern Philippines in their just struggle for the realization of their legitimate aspirations within the framework of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Philippines.

3. Pays tribute to the leaders of the Moro National Liberation Front, the sole legitimate

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representative of Muslims in Southern Philippines ("Bangsamoro people"), for their unfailing readiness to a political, just, comprehensive, and final solution to the question of Muslims in Southern Philippines through dialogue and negotiation with the Government of the Republic of the Philippines under the auspices of the OIC, and the commitment of the Front to the Tripoli Agreement of 1976 and the subsequent agreements which were concluded between the two parties with the participation of the Ministerial Committee of the Six and the OIC Secretary General.

4. Pays tribute to the spirit of good will and understanding which prevailed at the rounds of the Formal Peace Talks and the meetings of the various committees held between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front with the participation of the Ministerial Committee of the Six and the OIC Secretary General which paved the way for the establishment of a constructive dialogue that facilitated the achievement of understanding and agreement on most of the issues under discussion.

5. Welcomes the substantial progress so far achieved in the negotiation between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front with the participation of the Ministerial Committee of the Six and the OIC Secretary General.

6. Expresses its appreciation for the commendable efforts being exerted by the Republic of Indonesia under the wise guidance and patronage of H.E. President Soeharto as well as the Chairman of the OIC Ministerial Committee of the Six.

7. Calls upon the Philippines Government and the Moro National Liberation Front to do their utmost in consolidating the progress achieved so far towards attainment of a just and comprehensive political solution for the problem of the Muslims in Southern Philippines in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Tripoli Agreement.

8. Also calls upon the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front to follow strictly and respect the ceasefire agreement and enhance the implementation as agreed in the Third Round of the Formal Peace Talks.

9. Reaffirms its solidarity with the Bangsamoro people and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and its readiness to continue providing every form of assistance - humanitarian, material, financial and political - to the Muslims in Southern Philippines and to the Moro National Liberation Front until their just and legitimate aspirations are fulfilled.

10. Urges Member States as well as all Islamic philanthropic establishments, individuals and humanitarian organizations in the Islamic Ummah to generously extend financial assistance to the MNLF to augment its capacity to further the peace process in the true spirit of Islamic unity and solidarity.

11. Notes with satisfaction the efforts made by the Ministerial Committee of the Six and the Secretary General to find a just and comprehensive solution to the problem of Muslims in the Southern Philippines.

12. Requests the Ministerial Committee of the Six and the OIC Secretary General to continue to follow this question closely until a peaceful, just, comprehensive permanent solution to the problem of the Muslims in the Southern Philippines is achieved within the framework of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of the Philippines.

13. Pays tribute to the role of Government of the Great Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in achieving the Tripoli Agreement on 23 December 1976 and in hosting the first exploratory talks in Tripoli from 3 to 4 October 1992.

14. Also pays tribute to the OIC Observer Team manned by Indonesian officers for its effective peace keeping mission thereby creating conditions conducive to the peace process.

15. Requests the Secretary General to communicate this Resolution to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and to the Moro National Liberation Front.

16. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this Resolution and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 39/23-P
ON
THE INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC COURT OF JUSTICE

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling Resolution 12/5-P(IS) of the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference regarding the establishment of the International Islamic Court of Justice;

Desiring to speed up the establishment of the International Islamic Court of Justice so that it may contribute to the peaceful settlement of disputes among Islamic States;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on the progress made towards the establishment of the Court (ICFM/23-95/LEG/D.1);

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Member States that have ratified the statute of the Court and the amendment of Article (3) of the Charter by the addition of a fourth paragraph (d) concerning the International Islamic Court of Justice.

2. Urges the Member States that have not yet ratified the Statute of the Court and the amendment of the Charter to accelerate the completion of the ratification procedure and to deposit their instruments of ratification at the General Secretariat as soon as possible, so that the quorum necessary for the Court to become operational may be attained.

3. Calls for continued coordination and consultation between the State of Kuwait, the host country, and the General Secretariat to look for the best ways and means for accelerating the establishment of the Court and its functioning thereof.

4. Invites the Secretary General to continue his intensive contacts and consultations with the Member States to expedite the attainment of the necessary quorum of ratifications to establish the Court and the commencement of its work.

5. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 40/23-P
ON
THE FOLLOW UP OF THE CAIRO DECLARATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN ISLAM

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the motives and the noble objectives which dictate the need and importance of underlining human rights which are guaranteed by the glorious religion of Islam;

Bearing in mind the objectives of the Charter of the OIC and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to promote and encourage respect for human rights without distinction as to the race, sex or religion;

Mindful of the integrity of Islamic values on human rights and the great importance which Islam attaches to human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction;

Recalling Resolution No. 49/19-P of the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers adopting and issuing the document entitled "Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam" which includes general guidance to the Member States in the field of human rights;

Recalling also Resolutions No. 37/20-P, No. 40/21-P and No. 39/22-P of the Twentieth, Twenty-First and Twenty-second Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers respectively as well as Resolution No. 39/7-P (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit underlining the importance of the following up of the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam;

Recognizing the utmost importance of the issue of human rights in international relations and in particular in relations among the OIC Member States, resulting from the current developments and interactions in the international arena;

Aware of the direct implications of this matter on the speedy achievement of development, progress and stability in various economic, social and political fields in Member States;

Having taken note of the Report of the Second Meeting of the Government Experts Group on the Follow-Up of the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam which is attached to the relevant Report of the Secretary General (Document No. ICFM/23-95/LEG/D.2-A);

1. Welcomes the unanimous decision of the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers to issue

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the Declaration on human rights in Islam which will serve as a general guidance for Member States in the field of human rights.

2. Recognizes the importance of following up of the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam and to retain it as an item on the Agenda of the Regular Sessions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers and its continued consideration for the effectiveness of joint and concerted action by Member States and the General Secretariat in order to facilitate the promotion of all Islamic values in the field of human rights.

3. Takes note of the Report of the Second Meeting of the inter- Governmental Experts Group on the Follow-up of the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam and requests the Secretary General to convene the third meeting of the Governmental Experts Group during the year 1995-96 in order to finalize its task in accordance with the contents of the Group's Report which is contained in Document No. (EMHR/2-95/REP.1 FINAL).

4. Requests the Secretary General to report to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the subject.

RESOLUTION NO. 41/23-P
ON
COORDINATION AMONG MEMBER STATES IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Bearing in mind the objectives of the Charter of OIC and the "Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam" to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all in accordance with Islamic values and teachings as well as the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights;

Mindful of the Islamic values on human rights, the supreme place of mankind in Islam as vicegerent of Allah on earth and accordingly the great importance that is being attached by the Islamic thought to promote and encourage respect for human rights;

Aware that the increasing importance of human rights throughout the world calls for further intensification of the efforts of the Islamic Ummah and Islamic organizations in order to take appropriate initiatives at all levels for the promotion and protection of human rights;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the coordination among Member States in the field of Human Rights in accordance with Resolution 40/22-P (ICFM/23-95/LEG/D.2-B);

Noting with satisfaction the contributions and positions of Member States as well as coordination among them during the World Conferences on Social Development and on Women held in 1995 in Copenhagen and Beijing, respectively, and the role of the General Secretariat in achieving such coordination;

Noting the attempts to exploit the issue of human rights to undermine the principles of the Islamic Shariah and to interfere in the affairs of Islamic States;

1. Expresses its appreciation and thanks to the Member States and the General Secretariat for their positive role and contributions in the World Conferences on Social Development and on Women, referred to above.

2. Reitrates the need for further and more regular consultation and coordination among Member States in international Conferences and meetings relating to the field of human rights.

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3. Underlines the necessity of keeping abreast of the economic and social development with promotion and respect of human rights.

4. Calls for the continuation of the necessary measure of vigilance and caution towards the wrong interpretations and insult of the Islamic Shariah.

5. Requests the Secretary General to facilitate cooperation and coordination among Member States in these Conferences and Meetings, and report to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 42/23-P
ON THE
STATUS OF SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF THE AGREEMENTS CONCLUDED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE OIC.

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on the Status of signature, ratification, and accession to the Agreements concluded under the auspices of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (Document No. ICFM/23-95/LEG/D.3);

Deploring that the quorum required from Member States for the coming into effect of many of these Agreements is not yet fulfilled in accordance with the provisions of their Statutes;

Realizing the importance of expediting the signing and/or ratification, by Member States, of these agreements for strengthening the role of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and facilitating its functioning and diversify and widen the fields of cooperation among Member States;

1. Urges anew, the Member States to sign and/or ratify, as soon as possible, the various agreements concluded in the framework of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

2. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 43/23-P
ON
CONVENING OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE U.N. TO DEFINE TERRORISM AND DISTINGUISH IT FROM PEOPLES' STRUGGLE FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION.

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Committed to the moral and human principles that the O.I.C. Member States believe in, and inspired by their sublime and tolerant religion; their heritage and tradition which call for the renunciation of all forms of injustice, aggression and acts of intolerance;

Proceeding from the conviction that there is an international consensus on combating terrorism in all its forms; eliminating the evils and causes of terrorism directed against the life and property of innocent people, the violation of the sovereignty of States, and the jeopardizing of the rights of peoples;

Convinced of the need for drawing clear-cut and agreed upon international criteria, enabling to differentiate clearly between terrorism and people's struggle for national liberation;

Reaffirming the need for Islamic cooperation to take practical measures whereby terrorism is effectively fought and checked in the framework of what had been underlined in the Code of Conduct for combatting international terrorism, approved by Resolution 43/7-P (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit;

Also reaffirming the fundamental and legitimate rights of all peoples living under colonial and racist regimes as well as foreign occupation to fighting occupation and to self-determination, particularly the struggle of national liberation movements;

Condemning all terrorist acts, including acts perpetrated by States, either directly or indirectly, which spread violence and terror and aim at destabilizing countries and societies;

Denouncing the frantic attempts at obliterating the distinction between terrorism and the legitimate struggle of peoples which conforms with the principles of international law and the provisions of the Charters of the O.I.C. and the U.N.;

Having observed the classifications adopted by some quarters due to tenditious political considerations in

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accordance with which some of the Islamic States are placed under what they name the list of States that harbour terrorism;

Recalling U.N. General Assembly Resolution 1514 (1960) on granting the right to self-determination and independence to colonised countries and peoples, and U.N. General Assembly Resolution 42/104, adopted on 7 December 1987;

Recalling also Resolution 42/7-P(I.S.) adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit and Resolution 42/22-P adopted by the Twenty-Second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having considered the Secretary General's report on the convening of an International Conference under the auspices of the UN to define terrorism and distinguish it from people's struggle for national liberation (Document No. ICFM/23-95/LEG/D.4-A);

1. Reiterates its support for convening an International Conference under the auspices of the United Nations to define terrorism and to distinguish it from the struggle of peoples for national liberation.

2. Commends the efforts made during the Forty-Ninth Session of the U.N. General Assembly regarding the convening of an International Conference.

3. Invites Member States in their replies to the Questionnaire circulated by the U.N. Secretary General, in keeping with General Assembly Resolution 44/29, to stress the need for convening an International Conference for defining the meaning of terrorism, and for distinguishing terrorism from the struggle of peoples for national liberation and also calls upon them to exert all the necessary efforts during the next Session of the U.N. General Assembly in support of holding the International Conference as early as possible.

4. Requests the Secretary General to report to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on this issue.

RESOLUTION NO. 44/23-P ON THE FOLLOW-UP OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COMBATING INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the Makkah Al Mukarramah Declaration of the Third Islamic Summit Conference and Resolution No. 44/21-P adopted at the Twenty-first Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Karachi as well as the Resolution 43/7-P (IS) adopted at the Seventh Islamic Summit;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General No. ICFM/23-95/LEG/D.4-B;

Expressing concern over the continuation of terrorist acts in all their forms and manifestations, including those where States are involved directly or indirectly, and which spread violence and terror and constitute a serious threat to international peace, stability and security;

Proceeding from the conviction that there is an international consensus on combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, eliminating the evils and causes of terrorism directed against the life and property of innocent people and sovereignty and territorial integrity of States;

Emphasizing the importance of international and regional cooperation, especially among Member States, in combating effectively all forms of terrorism;

Reiterating the call upon Member States to observe the principles of good neighbourliness, and to prevent the use of their territories or government bodies by individuals or groups bent on doing harm to other Member States;

Emphasizing the importance of the establishment of a climate of confidence and solidarity among Member States;

Being aware of the negative implications on the image of Islam of all forms of terrorism which is alien and inapplicable to Islam and its traditions;

Expressing firm commitment to the principles and provisions of the Code of Conduct;

1. Requests the Secretary General to continue the dissemination of this Code.

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2. Affirms the commitment of the Member States to the provisions of the Code of Conduct for Combating International Terrorism and calls upon Member States of the Organization to follow-up, coordinate their stands and achieve cooperation in the light of the principles and provisions stipulated in the Code at all international conferences and fora concerned with the international terrorism, and to cooperate with the General Secretariat for the facilitation and achievement of this coordination and cooperation.

3. Decides to hold an open-ended meeting of a Governmental Group of Experts from Member States in 1996 to examine the most appopriate ways to disseminate and publicize, as well as the means to implement, the principles and provisions contained in the Code of Conduct for combating international terrorism, to the largest possible extent worldwide. The Conference requests the Secretary General to undertake the necessary contacts with Member States to fix the date and venue of the meeting.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Combating International Terrorism in close cooperation with the Member States and submit a report to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Confefrence of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 45/23-P
ON THE
STRENGTHENING OF ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY IN COMBATING HIJACKING

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling Resolutions 28/12-P, 25/13-P, 22/14-P, 19/15-P, 3/16-P, 35/17-P, 31/18-P, 40/19-P, 29/20-P, 45/21-P and 44/22-P on combating hijacking of aircraft adopted by the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers;

Taking into consideration that the hijacking of aircraft and the anguish caused to innocent passengers is a crime as grave as highway robbery which is prohibited by the Islamic Shariah in accordance with the text of the Holy Quran (Surat Al-Maida/33);

Noting that crimes of hijacking aircraft have continued in spite of all international agreements and conventions prohibiting them and calling for the imposition of more severe sanctions against hijacking;

Affirming that acts of violence against innocent passengers in addition to the dread, terror and suffering caused to them and to their relatives and their exposure to unjustified physical and mental torture are contrary to the provisions of Islamic Shariah;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the strengthening of Islamic solidarity in combating hijacking (ICFM/23-95/LEG/D.5);

Conscious of the need for the full observance of international conventions against hijacking;

1. Condemns all forms of international terrorism including the crime of hijacking aircraft and unlawful acts against the safety and security of civil aviation.

2. Calls on Member States to refrain from yielding to the demands of hijackers which constitute a form of extortion contrary to the interests of the peoples and countries of the OIC and established rules.

3. Calls upon Member States to take all necessary measures to curb such crimes and to inflict the most severe punishments against offenders involved in them or to hand them over to the other States concerned.

4. Calls upon Member States which have not acceded to the Tokyo Convention (1963), the Hague Convention (1970) and the Montreal Convention (1971) on penalties for

hijacking and guarantees for the security and safety of civil aviation, to expedite their ratification of and accession to these Conventions and urges the States which have already acceded to these Conventions to strictly and firmly implement their provisions.

5. Calls upon all Member States on whose territories hijacked planes land to exert the utmost efforts to foil the designs of the hijackers in accordance with international rules in this regard and, in cooperation with the country owning the aircraft, to prevent the aircraft from taking off, in accordance with the relevant international agreements.

6. Requests the Member States facing such situations to provide necessary assistance to the passengers, the crew members, the aircraft and the countries owning them, in accordance with the provisions of international agreements.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 46/23-P
ON
IMPLEMENTING THE RESOLUTIONS
OF THE
THIRD ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF INFORMATION MINISTERS

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidariry and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Having taken cognizance of the Report of the Secretary General on the proceedings of the Third Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic on 24 and 25 May, 1995;

Recalling Resolutions No. 1/6-C (IS) and 45/7-P (IS) on COMIAC adopted by the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summit Conferences respectively and approving the recommendations of the Committee during its Third and Fourth Sessions;

Recalling in the same context Resolutions 29/10-P, 39/11-P, 30/14-P, 28/15-P and 18/17-P adopted by the Tenth, Eleventh, Fourteenth, Fifteenth and Seventeenth Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers concerning the necessity of convening the First Islamic Conference of Ministers of Information;

Recalling also Resolution No. 45/20-P adopted by the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the Second Islamic Conference of Ministers of Information held in Cairo on 15 and 16 January 1992;

Further recalling Resolution No. 45/22-P adopted by the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the Activities of the Ministerial Follow Up Committee of the Second Islamic Conference of Information Ministers;

Noting with satisfaction the convening of the Third Islamic Conference of Information Ministers in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, on 24 and 25 May 1995 (24-25 Zul Hijja 1415H);

1- Expresses its profound gratitude to the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic for having hosted the third Islamic Conference of Information Ministers.

2- Takes note of the resolutions of Third Islamic Conference of Information Ministers which will be submitted to next session of COMIAC for appropriate decision.

3- Urges the Member States, with the participation of the General Secretariat and the organs concerned to cooperate with COMIAC in order to implement the resolutions adopted for this purpose.

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4- Expresses thanks to the government of the Republic of Senegal for offering to host the fourth Islamic Conference of Information Ministers.

5- Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this Resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 47/23-P
ON
THE INFORMATION PLAN

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the 1994/95 Programme of Action within the framework of the Information Plan;

Recalling resolutions 10/4-P (IS), 1/5-P (IS), 1/6-P (IS) and 46/7-P (IS) of the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summits respectively, the recommendations of the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) at its 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th sessions specially those relating to the financing and implementing the Information Plan, resolutions 44/11-P, 39/12-P, 30/14-P, 28/15-P, 33/16-P, 48/17-P, 44/18-P, 32/19-P, 41/20-P and 45/21-P of the 11th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st ICFMs on the Information Plan of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference;

Recalling also resolution 46/22-P of the 22nd Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers adopting the 1994-95 Programme of Action and calling on the Secretary General to submit a report on its implementation to COMIAC and to the 23rd ICFM;

Recalling further the commitments made by Member States to establish an appropriate communication network aimed at reducing the imbalance in the flow of information in the Islamic World on the one hand and a specific information system to assert their national and cultural identities and combat the hostile campaigns directed at Islam and Muslims, on the other hand;

1. Reaffirms the need for Member States' strong support to, and effective participation in, the implementation of the Information Plan to ensure its success.

2. Appeals to Member States:

(a) To assume, individually or through cooperation among themselves, the execution of a number of operations of the Information Plan;

(b) To settle their arrears of contributions to the budget of the General Secretariat so that the latter can make up for the delay in implementation of the Plan arising out of such arrears;

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3. Approves the 1995-96 Action Programme submitted by the General Secretariat and drawn from the Information Plan, this programme having to be implemented in accordance with the recommendations of the 4th Session of COMIAC and the following financial conditions:

- US$ 500,000 from mandatory contributions by Member States, and
- US$ 500,000 from voluntary contributions and donations.

4. Appeals to Member States to pay their mandatory contributions and also make voluntary contributions necessary for the implementation of this Action Programme.

5. Reaffirms the need for Member States to strengthen cooperation among their information organs, institutions and organizations, this being the only way to unite their efforts and pool their human, material and financial resources so as to provide the Islamic Ummah with an information system that is credible, up-to-date, and capable of defending its religion, its interests and its stands effectively.

6. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to COMIAC and to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 48/23-P ON THE INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC NEWS AGENCY (IINA)

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Having considered the introductory report of the OIC Secretary General on the OIC specialized institutions in the field of information, and the report submitted by the Islamic International News Agency (IINA) on its activities and projects;

Noting with satisfaction the efforts of the Agency in the field of information and journalism;

Having noted the efforts being made by the Agency to expand and diversify its activities in the field of publication of books and bulletins on current events in the Islamic world, as well as reports and surveys on Islamic States, despite the financial, technical and journalistic difficulties it is experiencing;

Noting the role of the Agency in forcing its way to meet competition with other agencies by expanding its activities in the field of publications and bulletins which constitute reference documents for researchers in the Islamic world;

Expressing deep concern over the failure of some countries to settle their contributions to the Agency's budget;

1. Expresses its thanks and appreciation to the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the constant support extended to the Agency, and to the Member States which have contributed human, moral and material assistance to the Agency, thereby enabling it to pursue its progress in the field of information.

2. Urges Member States to extend support to the Agency by providing it with additional editorial and technical staff so that it may achieve its objectives in the service of Islamic information.

3. Requests information institutions in Member States to provide the Agency with information reports and printed material on developments in their countries.

4. Calls on Member States to pay their subscriptions and settle their arrears of contribution to the Agency budget so that the Agency can fulfil its responsibilities.

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RESOLUTION NO. 49/23-P
ON
THE ISLAMIC STATES BROADCASTING ORGANIZATION (ISBO)

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Having considered the introductory report of the Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the OIC institutions specializing in the field of information and the report of the Secretary General of the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization on its activities, projects and action plans;

Noting with satisfaction the achievements of the Organization in the service of the Islamic Da'wah, the dissemination of Arabic and the defense of Islamic causes;

Expressing concern over the increasing arrears of a number of Member States in the Organisation's budget;

1. Expresses deep gratitude and appreciation to King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz, Custodian of the two Holy Mosques, for his generous donation of $ 800,000 to ISBO to cover the Organization's share in the production of a television programme for teaching Arabic to non-Arabic speakers.

2. Expresses thanks and appreciation to the Radio and Television Union of the Arab Republic of Egypt for executing the television programme to teach Arabic to non-Arabic speakers and bearing half the cost of its production.

3. Expresses thanks and appreciation to the Member States which have settled their contributions to the Organization's budget.

4. Calls on the Member States concerned to regularly settle their full contributions to the Organization's annual budget and arrange for the early settlement of their arrears so that the Organisation can implement the programmes and projects it has adopted and achieve the objectives of the Islamic Ummah in the service of Dawah and Islamic information.

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Annex III

RESOLUTIONS
ON
STATUTORY AND GENERAL MATTERS

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RESOLUTION NO.1/23-ORG ON THE FUNCTIONING OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE, THE SUBSIDIARY ORGANS, THE SPECIALIZED AND AFFILIATED INSTITUTIONS.

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Referring to the provisions of the OIC Charter;

Inspired by the Makkah Al Mukarramah Declaration and Plan of Action to strengthen economic cooperation among Member States adopted by the Third Islamic Summit;

Convinced of the need for the Organization of the Islamic Conference to play a more active and dynamic role with a view to achieving the objectives of the Charter and consolidating Islamic solidarity and cooperation;

Determined to give the needed impetus to the General Secretariat, to the subsidiary organs, and the specialized and affiliated institutions in order to respond effectively to the requirements of joint Islamic action, through the continued improvement of working conditions of members of the staff;

Recalling Resolution No. 1/7-ORG (IS) adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit;

Recalling its previous resolutions, particularly resolutions 6/18-AF and 1/19-ORG, 1/20-ORG, 1/21-ORG and 1/22-ORG adopted respectively by the Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-First and Twenty-second Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers on the Functioning of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Subsidiary organs, and the Specialized and Affiliated Institutions;

Having taken cognizance of the Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of resolution 1/22-ORG contained in document ICFM/23-94/ORG.D-1;

Having taken note of the reforms undertaken within the General Secretariat and at the level of Subsidiary Organs in order to rationalize their functioning and management and enhance their effectiveness;

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Deeply concerned by the serious financial crisis which has been besetting the Organization and its various institutions for several years;

Emphasizing the need to provide the Organization, the Subsidiary Organs, the Specialized and Affiliated Institutions with the means whereby they can accomplish their mission in the service of joint Islamic action.

1. Expresses its deepest gratitude to His Majesty Hassan II, King of Morocco and current Chairman of the Seventh Islamic Summit, for his solicitude and far-sighted directives to the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, and the various Islamic institutions for strengthening joint Islamic action.

2. Takes note with satisfaction of the steps and initiatives of the Secretary General with a view to rationalizing the functioning and the management of the Organization while increasing its efficiency and implementing the relevant resolutions adopted by Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers on this question.

3. Notes with satisfaction the implementation of the Framework Statute for Subsidiary Organs and the Internal Rules for the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs as adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit.

4. Also notes with satisfaction the implementation of the Framework Statutes and Rules of Procedure for the Standing Committees (COMCEC and COMIAC) as adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit.

5. Further notes with satisfaction the finalization of the Draft Statute and Rules of Procedure for the Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH) in conformity with the provisions of Resolution 1/22-ORG of the Seventh Islamic Summit.

6. Notes with satisfaction the efforts of the Secretary General aimed at strengthening and widening coordination and cooperation within the institutional family of the OIC and decides to strengthen sectorial cooperation, at the level of programmes particularly among the various organs and institutions involved in similar fields by inviting one another to participate in the meetings of their Boards of Directors as stipulated in their statutes.

7. Invites the Secretary General to further consider ways and means to ensure regular financing of the budget and activities of the General Secretariat and Subsidiary Organs and requests the Secretary General to engage in consultations with the subsidiary organs and the specialized and affiliated institutions with a view to

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identifying the various human, material, financial and technical potentials in order to implement their respective programmes of work, taking into account the principles of interaction, interdependence and cooperation within the institutional family of the OIC.

8. Requests the Secretary General to submit a report on the implementation of this Resolution to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO.2/23-ORG
ON THE
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE AND THE UNITED NATIONS

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General on the cooperation between the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations (Doc. ICFM/23-95/ORG/D.5);

Taking into account the desire of both Organizations to cooperate more closely in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, decolonization, racial discrimination, fundamental human rights and the establishment of a new international economic order;

Recalling the Articles of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference which encourage activities carried out through regional cooperation to promote the objectives and principles of the United Nations and the Islamic Conference;

Noting with satisfaction the strengthening of cooperation between the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions;

Noting also the encouraging progress made in nine priority areas of cooperation as well as in the identification of new areas of cooperation such as "Promotion of Development through Inter-cultural Dialogue";

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations System and its agencies and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its institutions contributes to the promotion of the objectives and principles of the Charters of both the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Noting with satisfaction the determination of both organizations to further strengthen the existing cooperation by initiating specific proposals in the priority areas of cooperation;

Noting also with satisfaction the high level meeting undertaken by the Secretariats of the two organisations to establish a mechanism of cooperation in the political field.

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Recognizing the need for closer cooperation between the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations System and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions in the implementation of the proposals adopted at the coordination meeting of the Focal Points of the principal specialized agencies of the two organizations;

Recognizing also the relevance of the participation in future OIC/UN coordination meetings, of the Islamic Development Bank and other funding institutions in the Islamic world.

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject in particular Resolution No.46/19-P of the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, Resolution No. 3/20-ORG and No. 3/22-ORG of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers as well as United Nations General Assembly resolution 44/8 of October 18, 1989, resolution 45/9 of October 25, 1990 and resolution 47/18 dated 23 November, 1992 and resolution 49/15 of 25th November, 1994;

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the Report of the Secretary-General.

2. Notes with satisfaction the active participation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the work of the United Nations in order to achieve the objectives and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

3. Requests the Secretary-General in consultation with the Member States to consolidate the mechanism of cooperation with the United Nations system in the common search for solutions to global problems, such as issues of international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, decolonization, racial discrimination, fundamental human rights and the establishment of a new international economic order.

4. Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to broaden the scope of their cooperation with the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its various institutions, particularly by negotiating cooperation agreements, and invites them to multiply the contacts and meetings of the focal points in priority areas of interest to the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

5. Urges also the United Nations institutions, especially the main agencies, to provide increased technical and other forms of assistance to the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions in order to broaden the scope of their cooperation.

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6. Reiterates its appreciation to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for his continued efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to serve their mutual interests in the political, economic, social and cultural fields.

7. Requests the OIC Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to encourage the convening of sectorial meetings in the priority areas of cooperation.

8. Expresses its appreciation for the efforts of the OIC Secretary-General in the promotion of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, and expresses the hope that he will continue to strengthen the mechanisms of coordination between the two organizations.

9. Further expresses appreciation for the progress made in working out mechanisms of cooperation in the political field between the two organisations and request to hold consultations between the two Organizations on regular basis.

10. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the state of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

11. Decides to include in the agenda of its twenty-fourth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference".

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RESOLUTION NO. 3/23-ORG
ON
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE OIC AND INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December 1995),

Welcoming the effort of the Secretary General to establish and maintain excellent cooperation with the relevant international and regional Organizations;

Recognizing the excellent cooperation between the OIC and the League of Arab States and especially the symposium they jointly conducted on Al-Quds Al-Sharif in Cairo in March 1995;

Bearing in mind the cordial relationship between the OIC and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) characterized by exchange of views, consultations and reciprocal attendance of each others' Summit and Ministerial Conferences;

Noting the useful relationship between the OIC and the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and the support the OIC receives from NAM especially in its effort to ensure a lasting peace in the Middle East;

Also noting the excellent cooperation between the OIC and the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) since the two Organizations signed a Cooperation Agreement in September, 1994;

1. Notes with satisfaction the excellent cooperation between the OIC and the League of Arab States and urges the two Organizations to continue to jointly organize seminars and symposia on subjects of common interest to them and which are beneficial to their respective member states.

2. Also notes with satisfaction the efforts of the Secretary General to conclude cooperation agreement with the OAU especially because majority of the OIC Member States are also members of the OAU.

3. Further notes with satisfaction the useful consultations held by the Secretary General with the executives of ECO and UMA and calls upon the Organization to strengthen cooperation with these two Organizations.

4. Calls upon the Secretary General to maintain the useful interaction that he has been able to establish with the Non-Aligned Movement.

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5. Invites the Secretary General to maintain cooperation and coordination with all the said international and regional Organizations not only for mutual benefit but also for the well-being of the Member States and the Islamic World at large.

6. Requests the Secretary General to submit progress report to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 4/23-ORG
ON THE
ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL OF THE ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY FUND

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December 1995),

Referring to the provisions of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Recalling the relevant provisions of the Statute of the Islamic Solidarity Fund;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary General on the election of members of the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund presented in Document No. ICFM/23-95/ORG/D.6;

Referring to the Report of the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund, presented in Document No. ICFM/23-95/ISF/D.1;

Noting that the term of office of the present Council will come to an end on 30 June 1995;

Decides:

- To elect to the membership of the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund for the period from Ist July 1995 to 30th June 1997, the representatives of the following Member States:

1. State of the United Arab Emirates
2. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
3. Republic of Turkey
4. Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
5. Republic of Tunisia
6. Islamic Republic of Pakistan
7. State of Kuwait
8. Republic of Yemen.
9. Arab Republic of Egypt.
10. Kingdom of Morocco.
11. State of Palestine.
12. Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.
13. Republic of Niger.

RESOLUTION NO. 5/23-ORG
ON
THE FINANCE CONTROL ORGAN

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December 1995),

Considering Article 79 of the Finance Regulations of the Organization of the Islamic Conference constituting the Finance control Organ, and Article 81 that the Finance Control Organ shall be composed of eight-Member States to be appointed by the Conference for two years, renewable;

Further considering that the present term of the membership of the Finance control Organ designated at the Twenty-first Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Karachi in April 1993 is expiring;

Appoints the following eight-member states to compose the Finance control Organ:

1. Islamic Republic of Pakistan.
2. People's Republic of Bangladesh.
3. Republic of Tunisa.
4. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
5. Republic of Yemen.
6. United Arab Emirates.
7. Socialist Peoples' Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.
8. Republic of Senegal.

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RESOLUTION NO. 6/23-ORG ON THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF PAKISTAN IN 1997

The Twenty-Third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, the Republic of Guinea from 9-12 December 1995:

Bearing in mind the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Re-affirming the commitment of the Organization of Islamic Conference to promoting Islamic unity and solidarity;

Recognizing Pakistan's historic role in support of all just Islamic causes and for the promotion of Islamic solidarity, ever since its inception in 1947;

Affirming the importance that the Government and people of Pakistan attach to commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the founding of Pakistan in 1997;

(1) Urges all OIC Member States to express their solidarity with Pakistan in marking this historic occasion.

(2) Takes note of the proposal of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to hold an Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference in Pakistan in March 1997 to mark the historic occasion of the 50th Anniversary of Pakistan's independence.

(3) Recommends to the Heads of State/Government of the OIC Member States to approve the proposal for the holding of an Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit in Pakistan in March 1997.

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RESOLUTION NO. 7/23-ORG
ON THE
DATE AND VENUE OF THE
TWENTY-FOURTH ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

The Twentry-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9 - 12 December, 1995),

Referring to the relevant provisions of the Charter, in particular Articles 5 and 6;

Recalling the rules of procedure for the meetings of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, particularly rules 2 and 9 concerning the convening of the Conference and the role of the General Secretariat;

Recalling also the relevant provisions of Resolution No. 1/19-ORG on the functioning of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions, and notably its paragraph 17, setting the third week of the month of April of each year for holding the regular sessions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having noted with appreciation the offer made by the Republic of Indonesia to host the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

1. Expresses its deep gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Indonesia for its generous offer.

2. Decides that the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers will be held in 1996 in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia at a date to be fixed through consultations between the host country and the Secretary General.

3. Requests the Secretary General, in accordance with the prevailing technical, administrative and financial arrangements and in consultation with the Government of the Republic of Indonesia to take the necessary steps for convening the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the scheduled date.

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MOTION OF THANKS ADDRESSED TO HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL LANSANA CONTÉ, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA

The Twenty-Third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December 1995),

Inspired by the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter;

Having followed with great interest the opening speech of His Excellency General Lansana Conté, President of the Republic of Guinea who kindly accepted to grace this Conference with his High Patronage:

1- Pays a warm tribute to His Excellency General Lansana Conté, President of the Republic of Guinea for his support to the action of the Organization, for the excellent initiative in hosting this important Ministerial Conference and for his great part in joint Islamic action, in enhancing the prestige of the Organization and consolidating its contribution to international peace and security.

2. Expresses its sincere thanks and profound gratitude to His Excellency General Lansana Conté, to the Government and people of Guinea for their noble and sustained support to the Organization of the Islamic Conference and to its institutions, a support reflecting the great interest they have always taken in the defence of Islamic causes and congratulates him on the significant progress already achieved in ensuring the prosperity of the people of Guinea under his high and enlightened guidance.

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Annex IV

REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AFFAIRS

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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
TWENTY-THIRD ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS
(SESSION OF PEACE, SOLIDARITY AND TOLERANCE)
CONAKRY, REPUBLIC OF GUINEA
17-20 RAJAB 1416H (9-12 DECEMBER 1995).

The Economic, Science and Technology Affairs Committee of the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), met from 17 to 19 Rajab 1416H (9-11 December 1995) to consider agenda items 44 to 52 of the Regular Agenda and also one Additional item.

2. The Committee used the draft resolutions prepared by the General Secretariat as the main working document.

3. The delegations of Member States attending the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foereign Ministers participated in the working sessions of the Committee.

4. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Djigui CAMARA, National Director for Cooperation. The General Secretariat was represented by H.E. Mr. Ousman N.R. Othman, Assistant Secretary General for Economic Affairs, and Science and Technology.

5. The representative of the following subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference also participated in the work of the Committee:

- Islamic Development Bank (IDB), Jeddah.
- Statistical Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTCIC), Ankara.
- Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), Casablanca.
- Islamic Institute of Technology (IIT), Dhaka.
- Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development (IFSTAD), Jeddah.

6. The Bureau of the Committee consisted of the representatives of the same Member States elected to the Bureau of the Twenty-third Conference of Foreign Ministers, namely;

Chairman ... Republic of Guinea.
Vice-Chairman ... Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
Vice-Chairman ... State of Palestine.

Vice-Chairman	...	Republic of Azerbaijan.
Rapporteur	...	Kingdom of Morocco.

7. The Committee deliberated on all the items concerned and finalised the draft resolutions on them for submission to the Plenary of the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

8. The Committee adopted the Report of its deliberations and approved the Draft Resolutions on the items of its Agenda and agreed that the Chairman of the Committee will submit them for adoption at the closing session of the Conference.

A copy of the Resolutions are annexed to this report.

9. The Committee insisted on highlighting the need for the Islamic World to adopt to the challenges and to seize the opportunities offered in the context of the new international economic relations. Hence, the Committee considered with careful attention, the necessity of a qualitative step forward in the economic relations between Member States in the light of the mutations affecting the World economy and especially the signature of the Uruguay Round Agreements and the creation of the World Trade Organization.

10. The Committee considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on the Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development, and requested that it be circulated to all Member States for review and comments with the understanding that this subject will be included in the agenda of the next session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs for a recommendation to be submitted to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers which will take an appropriate decision thereon.

11. The Committee, at the request of delegation of the Republic of Sudan, withdrew the Draft Resolution on item 45 on the Agenda concerning Economic Assistance to the Republic of Sudan for malaria control.

12. The Committee agreed to consider and adopt the resolution presented by the Republic of Mozambique, even though it was not included in the Agenda.

13. At the conclusion of its deliberations, the Committee lauded the Chairman for the efficient manner in which he guided the work of the Committee It also thanked the Vice-Chairmen for their contributions to the work of the Committee and the Rapporteur for preparing the Report.

14. The Committee also expressed its appreciation to the General Secretariat and all the subsidiary organs affiliated and specialised institutions of the OIC for their contribution to the work of the Committee.

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15. The Committee also thanked the supporting technical staff for the preparatory work done and efforts made to ensure the success of its deliberations, and the interpreters and translators for their invaluable contributions.

16. Finally, the Committee expressed its deep gratitude and sincere thanks to His Excellency General Lansana Conté, President of the Republic of Guinea, and H.E. Mr. Kozo Zoumanigui, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Guinea, for their keen interest in the activities of the OIC and for their generous hospitality for the hosting of this Conference.

RESOLUTION NO. 1/23-E
ON
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS FACING THE ISLAMIC COUNTRIES

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling Resolution No.1/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit and Resolution No. 1/22-E adopted by the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having also considered with particular attention the results of the Uruguay Round of Negotiations concerning certain sectors of international trade;

Having taken cognizance of the recommendations of the Nineteenth Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Also having taken cognizance of the report of the Secretary General as well as of the studies prepared by the Ankara and Casablanca Centres on this subject;

1. Reiterates the need to take serious steps to ensure economic integration among the OIC Member States with the ultimate objective of establishing an Islamic Common Market or any other form of economic integration, on a step-by-step and regional basis, among OIC member countries, in order to help overcome difficulties arising from the formation of global economic groupings.

2. Urges Member States to pursue efforts aimed at strengthening economic cooperation among them so as to maximize the complementarities in their economies and avoid further marginalization.

3. Urges Member States to coordinating their efforts aimed at making the necessary contacts with the concerned international parties and organizations so as to safeguard the economic interests of Islamic States and not to prejudice their exports of various commodities and materials.

4. Calls on developed countries to create a more practical, equitable and more transparent environment enabling developing countries to implement their structural adjustment programmes to enable them to achieve sustainable development.

5. Urges Member States to support the Common Fund established by UNCTAD with a view to stabilizing raw material prices.

6. Recognizes that the effective implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements would necessitate adjustments in the economic and administrative structures of the member countries

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to safeguard their interests and to take maximum advantage from the opportunities to be created thereby.

7. Recognizes that if the OIC community is to become an active participant in global economic decision making and commercial relations, coordinated efforts would be the most effective means for mitigating losses and turning losses into profits.

8. Agrees on the need to closely monitor the implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreement and requests the General Secretariat and related OIC Institutions to design and propose for implementation, technical assistance programmes to assist those among the member countries which might have difficulties in responding to the new challenges.

9. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 2/23-E
ON
IMPLICATIONS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SINGLE EUROPEAN MARKET ON THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling Resolution 2/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference and Resolution 2/22-E adopted by the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers respectively;

Having examined the Implications of the Establishment of a Single European Market and their impact on economic relations between the European Community and the Islamic States;

Having taken cognizance of the recommendations of the Nineteenth Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Also having taken cognizance of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Calls on the European Union to honour its commitments towards its trade partners, members of OIC.

2. Requests Member States to make the necessary efforts to encourage the promotion of an overall economic and commercial cooperation for the benefit of Member States and urge them to stimulate trade exchanges among themselves while eliminating any obstacles likely to hinder this action.

3. Urges the developed countries giving preferences to OIC member countries under various schemes to examine the erosion that is likely to occur in these preferences as a result of the implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements and to consider to restore these losses by other trade concessions or forms of compensation within the framework of the provisions of the Uruguay Round Agreements.

4. Requests the Ankara and Casablanca Centres, to undertake studies on the effects of the international economic conglomerations, on the economic conditions of the OIC Member States and make appropriate recommendations on the same with a view to safeguarding the national interests of Member States.

5. Requests the General Secretariat to circulate these studies to Member States as soon as they are ready so as to get their views, and to submit a report on the same to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

6. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 3/23-E
ON
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED AND LAND-LOCKED MEMBER STATES

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling Resolution No.3/7-E(IS) and Resolution No. 3/22-E adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit and Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers respectively;

Expressing its profound concern over the serious economic problems faced by the Least-Developed Member States and noting with disappointment the slow progress in the implementation of the new Programme of Action adopted in the Second UN Conference held in 1990 for Least Developed Countries, as well as in the increasing of the Official Development Assistance (ODA);

Expressing concern over the sharp decline in the prices of the raw materials produced and exported by the least developed countries;

Having taken note with satisfaction that, despite the sharp drop in oil revenues in recent years, the Islamic donor countries continued to provide significant external aid and that the amount of aid distributed to the least developed countries exceeded 0.15 per cent of their Gross Domestic Product;

Expressing satisfaction with the IDB's efforts for the extension of assistance to the Least Developed Countries and for the opening of a special account for them as approved by the IDB's Board of Governors at its Seventeenth Annual Session held in Tehran in November 1992;

Having taken Cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Considering the report of the Secretary General and the Ankara Centre on the subject;

1. Appeals to the international community, and particularly to the developed countries to fully and efficiently implement the 1990 Plan of Action in this regard and the provisions of other UN resolutions, in particular those contained in UNCTAD VIII.

2. Urges developed countries to increase their contributions within the framework of the International Development Strategy and to follow the example of States who converted the debts contracted by the least developed

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countries into grants in order to facilitate the implementation of the structural adjustment measures undertaken by these countries.

3. Notes with satisfaction the efforts of some Member States to extend assistance in the technical, financial, food and other sectors to the least developed member countries and hope that such assistance will continue.

4. Appreciates the continuous efforts of the General Secretariat as well as those of the IDB, subsidiary organs and affiliated institutions in this direction.

5. Stresses the importance of increasing Official Development Assistance (ODA) granted by the developed countries in favour of the developing countries in general and Least Developed Countries in particular.

6. Recognizes the necessity to respond to the needs of Land-locked and transit countries so as to allow them to develop their transport infrastructure.

7. Recalls with satisfaction that the negotiations embodied provisions conferring preferential and favourable to developing countries, including special attention to the particular situation of the least developed countries and calls on the international community to implement these provisions effectively and at the earliest.

8. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the evolution of this issue and to report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 4/23-E
ON
ERADICATION OF POVERTY IN THE LEAST DEVELOPED AND LOW-INCOME OIC MEMBER STATES

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling Resolution No.4/7-E(IS) and Resolution No. 4/22-E adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit and Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers respectively;

Expressing its concern over the prevalence of this phenomenon and its tragic dimensions which should be checked in time;

Reiterating the need to give special attention to the eradication of poverty notably in the Least Developed and Low-income Islamic countries;

Acting in conformity with Islamic rules and precepts as well as the OIC Charter and moved by spirit of Islamic solidarity;

Having taken Cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken cognizance of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Declares that the complete eradication of poverty in all Member States before the end of the next decade constitutes a common objective of OIC Member States.

2. Confirms the link between the acute nature of the poverty phenomenon and the distortion of the socio-economic development programmes due to the inappropriate international conditions, particularly those relating to the requisites of the infrastructure and the exacerbation of unemployment.

3. Urges Member States and the international community to take specific measures for the fulfillment of the commitments made at the World Social Summit, held in Copenhagen, so as to enable the Least Developed Member States to attain this objective.

4. Reaffirms that a favourable international economic environment taking into account the requirements of poor countries, within the framework of the concessions to be granted to them in terms of financial assistance and investment resources; in terms, also, of their access to

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international markets, raw materials price stability and appropriate structural programmes, is necessary for the success of the struggle being waged by LDCs and low income countries to help them eradicate poverty.

5. Appeals to developed countries to increase their aid programmes in order to attain 0.7% of the GDP in official aid to development, as fixed by the UN.

6. Urges the LDCs and low income countries to play in a more coordinated manner a more active role in international fora dealing with the eradication of poverty.

7. Appeals to Member States to carry out the technical cooperation programmes with a view to improving the sanitary, educational, human and housing conditions as well as other priority needs of their respective populations.

8. Encourages Member States, organs and institutions to support the programmes of OIC least developed countries and the low income ones, with a view to strengthening their local technical capabilities and creating production and job opportunities.

9. Stresses the importance of national policies and effective budgetary policies in the mobilization of national resources making it possible to combat poverty.

10. Reaffirms the need to give special attention to the eradication of poverty in the least developed and poorer Member countries.

11. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 5/23-E
ON
EXTERNAL DEBT OF AFRICAN AND OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE OIC

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling the Resolution No. 5/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit and resolution No.5/22-E of the 22nd Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Expressing its deep anxiety over the external debts of the developing Member States which have been increasing at an alarming rate in recent years, just as have been the interest rates, the instability of the rate of exchange and the average ratio of debt servicing;

Noting with satisfaction that the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has written off the official debt of a certain number of least developed/landlocked and/or Sahelian Member States;

Appreciating the initiative of His Highness the Emir of the State of Kuwait, who as Chairman of the Fifth Session of the Organization of the Islamic Summit Conference, declared in his speech to the UN General Assembly on 27/9/1990 that in order to alleviate the burden of indebtedness of the developing States, the State of Kuwait took the initiative of writing off the interests due on development loans extended to developing States;

Also expressing its appreciation for the efforts now being made by His Majesty King Hassan II, Chairman of the Seventh Islamic Summit and H.E. the OIC Secretary General with a view to implementing the resolution of the Seventh Islamic Summit on the debt of OIC Member States;

Having taken Cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Also having taken cognizance of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Appeals to international creditors to continue adopting every necessary measure to cut down the debt of OIC Member States, in particular through staggered settlement of debts, deferred amortization, reduced or favourable interest rates and swapping debts for various development projects.

2. Urges that approach in the debt settlement should cover all types of debt, including multilateral debt, and all indebted developing countries, and incorporate measures aimed at a once-and-for all reduction arrangement to

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reduce their debt burden to a scale that would allow them to resume their economic growth and development.

3. Expresses its gratitude to Member States which have already responded favourably to the above request and appeals to Member States to continue the transfer of capital through grants and concessionary loans to Member States, especially to the least developed, the land-locked and/or Sahelian countries.

4. Renews the call made to the international community, especially the developed countries, to offer substantial reduction of African debts and lowering of the burden of servicing charges while ensuring that this process is combined with the flow of fresh and considerable finances at soft-terms, to African countries.

5. Appeals to those Member States that have not yet done so and to industrialized countries and international organizations to implement the resolution of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference on the external debt of OIC Member States.

6. Appeals also to Member States which are also donors to use their influence with the International Donor Community with regard to implementing this resolution.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow up this matter and report to the ICFM.

RESOLUTION NO. 6/23-E
ON
NEED FOR A QUALITATIVE LEAP IN ECONOMIC RELATIONS AMONG MEMBER STATES IN THE LIGHT OF THE CURRENT CHANGES IN THE WORLD ECONOMY

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling the Resolution No.28/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit and resolution No.28/22-E of the 22nd Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having taken Cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, held in Jeddah, from 24-29 June 1995;

Reaffirming the relevance of both the new Strategy and the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among Member States, endorsed at the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, and underlining in this respect, the dynamic and constructive role played by the President of Turkey in chairing the COMCEC's proceedings;

Realizing the quick evolution of the world economy towards increased globalization and integration, as well as the challenges embodied in the constitution of powerful economic blocs and by the growing liberalization of world trade;

Bearing in mind the forthcoming implementation of the Marrakesh Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO), as well as the possible impacts of the Uruguay Round Agreements on the developing World in general and on the OIC Member States in particular, and recognizing in this respect the need for more cooperation and coordination among OIC Member States to ensure that growth in world trade will benefit the Islamic countries;

Convinced that as a result of the establishment of the WTO, trade relations between Member States should be placed within the framework of the rights and obligations provided for by the new trade rules contained in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round;

Taking note with satisfaction of the reports submitted by the General Secretariat of the OIC, SESRTCIC, ICDT, IDB, and ICCI on the subject;

1. Appreciates all the decisions taken by the COMCEC relating to the Strategy and the Plan of Action for the strengthening of inter-Islamic economic and commercial cooperation.

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2. welcomes with satisfaction, the under-mentioned proposals made by His Majesty King Hassan II to the international community on the occasion of the closing session of the Ministerial Conference of the Uruguay Round in Marrakesh:

a) The implementation of a "genuine Marshall Plan" in favour of Africa, with a view to reducing the tremendous poverty and lessen the recurring tensions from which its populations are suffering;

b) The setting up of a new international negotiations mechanism which will better safeguard the national interests of developing countries in general and particularly those of OIC Member States;

3. Exhorts Member States to take necessary steps on a progressive basis with a view to harmonizing the legal framework of their economic policies in order to adapt them to the new trade rules provided for within the WTO framework and encouraging thus a quick development of trade between Member States, so as to attain the target of 20% by the end of the decade.

4. Invites Member States to revitalize their actions in order to increase their share in the world economy notably by a sustained improvement of their international competitiveness at the level of the goods and services exports, by adopting a series of policies meant to improve their economic infrastructures, master the services sector, increase the value added and the quality of products, diversify the productive base and provide the required conditions likely to attract foreign investments.

5. Mandates the OIC to set up an Islamic Observatory for International Competitiveness within existing competent institutions in order to regularly follow the evolution of the market shares of Islamic Countries in the world economy.

6. Emphasizes the growing importance of the services sector in the world economy and calls on Member States to increase technical cooperation in this field.

7. Calls upon Member States to further increase their efforts and their budgetary allocations for Research and Development with a view to support their production of goods and services as well as their competitiveness in international markets.

8. Invites Member States to endeavour to reinforce sub-regional and regional markets and relaunch the existing economic integration projects among Islamic countries, with a view to methodically prepare the establishment of an Islamic

Common Market or any other suitable form of economic integration among themselves.

9. Affirms that in order to achieve the above objectives the private sector in Islamic Countries should play a prominent role through giving impetus to inter-Islamic economic relations and in this context invites the Governments of Member States to support the promotional economic actions undertaken by the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in particular, concerning the establishment of direct contacts between private investors and businessmen in the Islamic countries.

10. Invites Member States to strengthen their consultation and coordination mechanisms, particularly within the WTO, as well as in their relations with regional economic blocs, so as to better protect the individual and collective interests of the Islamic countries.

11. Mandates the General Secretariat to supervise through COMCEC, in concert with the Member States and the International Organizations concerned, the implementation of this resolution and submit a follow-up report to the next ICFM.

12. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the question and report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 7/23-E
ON
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES, OF THE SYRIAN CITIZENS IN THE OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN AND OF THE ARAB PEOPLE IN THE OTHER OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES.

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling resolution No. 6/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit and resolution No. 6/22-E of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers respectively on the subject;

Noting with profound interest the role which the Palestine Liberation Organization and its National Authority is playing in all of the occupied Palestinian territories including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif for the improvement of the Palestinian people's living conditions and the overhauling of their national economy;

Inviting attention to the danger of Israel's continued occupation of the Syrian Golan, South Lebanon and the Western Bekka region which are daily exposed to human, economic and material losses;

Having taken Cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Hails the efforts made by the Palestinian Liberation Organization in the occupied Palestinian regions for the reconstruction of what had been destroyed under the Israeli occupation, as well the efforts exerted to rebuild and consolidate the Palestinian national economy made by its National Authority.

2. Urges all States and those institutions concerned to expedite the extension of the envisaged necessary assistance to help the Palestinian people to establish their national economy; to act for the consolidation of their national institutions and to enable them to establish their independent State with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

3. Reaffirms the earlier resolutions in favour of the extension of all forms of economic, technical, material and moral support and assistance to the Palestinian people, while giving at the same time a preferential treatment to

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Palestinian export products by exempting them from taxes and tariffs.

4. Urges the business people and investors of the OIC Member States to undertake the execution of the economic, industrial, agricultural and housing programmes in all of the occupied Palestinian territories with a view to building the national economy.

5. Condemns Israel's continuing occupation of the Palestinian territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif and its arbitrary practices against the Palestinian people in all of the occupied towns and villages.

6. Further Condemns the continuing occupation by Israel of Syrian Golan South Lebanon and the Bekka Valley, as well as the arbitrary Israeli practices which have resulted in the deterioration of the economic and social conditions of the Syrian and Lebanese people who are under occupation.

7. Appeals urgently to Member States and the international organizations also to extend every necessary assistance to the Lebanese population in South Lebanon and Western Bekka which are daily and permanently exposed to Israeli aggression causing material losses and resulting in social hardship which paralyse almost permanently, the economic activities of the region.

8. Requests the Secretary General to follow this question and report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 8/23-E
ON
ASSISTANCE TO MEMBER STATES STRICKEN BY DROUGHT AND NATURAL CALAMITIES

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling resolution No. 7/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit and resolution No. 7/22-E of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Noting with concern the grave situation caused by natural disasters, drought and desertification, and the ensuing damaging effects on economic and social conditions specially in the sectors of agriculture and food, economic and social infrastructures as well as public services and utilities;

Noting with satisfaction the efforts made by some Member States and the Islamic Development Bank which have extended and continue to extend technical and financial assistance as well as food aid to Member States stricken by drought and natural disasters;

Fully aware that afflicted Member States, belonging as they do to the category of the Least-Developed, cannot by themselves, bear the growing burden of anti-drought and anti-desertification campaign and the implementation of major related projects;

Having taken Cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses its gratitude to Member States, which have provided and are still providing assistance and food aid to the Member States affected by drought and natural disasters.

2. Expresses its gratitude to IDB for its continuing assistance to Member States afflicted by drought and natural disasters and encourages the Bank to continue its assistance in this domain.

3. Appeals to the International Community also to extend assistance to Member States struck by drought and natural disasters.

4. Calls upon to Member States and OIC Institutions to extend assistance to OIC countries of Inter-governmental

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Authority for Development and the Campaign Against Drought (IGADD) and Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) to enable them to overcome the difficult situation which is threatening them and to extend the same assistance to the Republic of Guinea from where numerous waterways take their source in their campaign against drought.

5. Requests the General Secretariat, the IDB and the International Islamic Relief Agency to convene a meeting in coordination with UN Specialised Agencies (particularly the Office of the International Decade for the Prevention of Natural Disasters ("INDR") of the UN Department for Humanitarian Affairs, in the framework of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Prevention, with a view to organizing a meeting of experts entrusted with examining and recommending appropriate measures aimed at preventing and alleviating the effects of natural disasters in Bangladesh and other Member States affected and threatened by natural disasters.

6. Further Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of the resolution and report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 9/23-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO LEBANON

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling the resolution No. 9/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit and resolution No. 9/22-E of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Commending the efforts made by the Lebanese Government to achieve stability and security, assert its authority and recover its institutions;

Taking into account the difficulties encountered by the citizens living in the areas occupied by Israel and in neighbouring areas;

Appreciating the efforts made by the Lebanese authorities to reconstruct their country and consolidate the steadfastness of citizens living in areas occupied by Israel and taking into account the requirements in this connection;

Having taken Cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, held in Jeddah, from 24-29 June 1995;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses deep appreciation for the assistance extended by some Member Countries and OIC relevant bodies.

2. Affirms its previous resolutions aiming at extending financial, economic and humanitarian assistance to Lebanon in the light of its needs in the economic, technical and training fields.

3. Reaffirms and reiterates the appeal made by the 22nd Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers to the international community calling for a generous contribution to the International Fund for the Reconstruction of Lebanon to ensure the effectiveness of this Fund.

4. Invites Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and all international and regional organizations to provide all forms of urgent financial assistance and in kind to Lebanon so that it may rebuild what the Israeli aggression has destroyed and consolidate the steadfastness of the Lebanese in the regions occupied by Israel.

5. Requests the Secretary General to follow this question and report thereon to the next ICFM.

RESOLUTION NO.10/23-E
ON
ASSISTANCE TO MUSLIMS IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling the resolution No. 10/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit and resolution No. 10/22-E of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Guided by the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter which lay stress on the common objectives and destiny of the peoples of the Ummah, as well as their commitment to consolidate international peace and security;

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the OIC expressing its Members' full solidarity with the Government and people of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina who are still facing a dire situation resulting from the brutal inhuman attacks by the Serbs;

Taking also into account the resolutions adopted by the Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, held in Istanbul and Jeddah and followed by the Special Ministerial Meeting held in Islamabad as well as the 21st and 22nd Meetings of the OIC Foreign Ministers which were held in Karachi and Casablanca respectively and the Seventh OIC Summit;

Welcoming and fully supporting the cease-fire agreement reached on October 5, 1995 between the Government of the Republic and Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina on the one side, and the Bosnian Serbs on the other, which has gone into effect on October 13, 1995;

Expressing its appreciation for the recently concluded special meeting of the OIC Contact Group Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Defence Ministers which were recently held in Kuala Lumpur, highlighting the OIC's firm commitment to finding an equitable and just solution to the Bosnian problem, as well as its resolve to contribute to the peace process in cooperation with the International Contact Group;

Also expressing its appreciation for the work of the Assistance Mobilisation Group for Bosnia-Herzegovina, formed during the OIC Kuala Lumpur meeting, towards providing humanitarian and economic assistance for concrete rehabilitation and reconstruction projects in Bosnia-Herzegovina;

Having taken Cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

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Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. _Expresses_ deep appreciation for the assistance extended by some Member Countries and OIC relevant bodies.

2. _Notes_ with deep concern the consequences of the killing, torture, and expulsion and ethnic cleansing of the population which is forcibly prevented from returning to their home under Serbian occupation in the Republic of Hosnia-Herzegovina thus changing the demographic structure of the country.

3. _Appeals_ to Member States, Islamic institutions and other donors to make generous donations as well as provide financial aid to enable the early implementation of the IDB Programme aimed at providing humanitarian and material assistance for reconstruction purposes to the Government and people of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

4. _Expresses_ its appreciation for the assistance provided by the OIC Member States and for the commendable efforts of those Islamic and other international humanitarian bodies in providing relief and assistance to the victims of the aggression in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

5. _Calls upon_ the International Community to take immediate efficient measures, to stop forthwith the genocide and crimes against humanity in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and to provide every economic support and assistance to ensure the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

6. _Demands_ that the sovereignty, territorial integrity and the political independence of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina be safeguarded and protected along its internationally recognized borders, and support the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina, which is open for the participation of the Bosnian Serbs and which represents a solid basis for a just and lasting solution by being a catalyst for restoring confidence among its peoples.

7. _Requests_ the Secretary General to follow up the matter and submit a report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 11/23-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling the resolution No. 11/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit and resolution No. 11/22-E of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Deeply concerned at the critical situation in Somalia and expressing the desire for early restoration of peace and order in that sister Member country;

Having taken Cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses appreciation for the assistance extended by some Member Countries and OIC relevant bodies.

2. Appeals to OIC Member States, to provide material and other assistance on an emergency basis to Somalia to end the human suffering in this Muslim country.

3. Commends those Member States that have already provided aid and assistance to the people of Somalia.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the matter and submit a report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO.12/23-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA IN THE FACE OF REFUGEE INFLUX FROM LIBERIA AND SIERRA LEONE

. The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling Resolution 12/7-E(IS) of the 7th Islamic Summit Conference and Resolution 12/22-E of the 22nd Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Deeply concerned over the negative effects of the conflicts in Liberia and Sierra Leone on the economy, security and environment in the Republic of Guinea as a result of refugee influx from these two countries into Guinea;

Having taken cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

After considering the reports of the Secretary General on the matter;

1. Makes an urgent appeal to the international community and Member States to provide the Republic of Guinea with a substantial financial and material assistance to enable it to overcome this difficult situation resulting from the presence on its national territory, of hundreds of thousands of refugees due to the extension of the armed conflict in Liberia to Sierra Leone and the increasing influx into Guinea of refugees whose majority are Muslims coming from Liberia and Sierra Leone.

2. Underlines the necessity for such assistance in order to enable the efficient organization of the eventual return of refugees to their respective countries.

3. Appeals to the Islamic Development Bank to extend financial assistance in the form of grant or soft term loans to the Republic of Guinea to enable the latter build the required social infrastructure for these refugees while reducing the degradation of the environment resulting from the presence of so many refugees.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO.13/23-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

RECALLING the pertinent Resolution of the 21st Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

RECALLING ALSO Resolution 57/19-P and 9/20-E adopted respectively by the 19th and 20th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

CONSIDERING that the worsening of the armed conflict in Sierra Leone has taken a more serious and extensive turn than expected, thus systematically entailing material and human losses, the disruption of economic activities and the displacement of the most productive section of the local population including the mining areas which has resulted in a complete loss of revenue to Government and the private sector as a whole;

TAKING NOTE of the huge expenditure that is incurred by Government totalling US $700,000 per month in prosecuting the war:-

1. Urgently appeals to the International Community and the Member States, to extend substantial financial and material assistance to the Republic of Sierra Leone so as to enable her to cope with this critical situation resulting from the armed conflict and the continued influx of refugees who are Muslims in their majority coming from Liberia and the displaced within Sierra Leone.

2. Urges Member States and the International Community to provide Sierra Leone with emergency aid to help it attenuate the sufferings of more than one million displaced people and other Sierra Leonean refugees living in the neighbouring West African countries as well as the rehabilitation and reconstruction programme.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the next ICFM.

RESOLUTION NO.14/23-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling resolution No. 13/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference and resolution No.13/22-E of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having taken Cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, held in Jeddah, from 24-29 June 1995;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses deep appreciation for the assistance extended by some Member Countries and OIC relevant bodies.

2. Expresses its strong support to the people of Albania beset by major economic difficulties at the present phase of their transition towards a market economy.

3. Urges OIC Member States, Islamic Institutions and International Organizations to grant generous economic assistance to Albania so that the Government of Albania may successfully implement its development programme.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 15/23-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling resolution No. 14/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference and resolution No.14/22-E of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Taking into account that Afghanistan is currently faced by serious constraints due to 17 years of war;

Noting that about 70% to 80% of its economic and social infrastructures has been destroyed;

Aware that over 1.5 million Afghans were killed, about 1.5 million disabled and more than 5 million displaced;

Recognizing that about 10 million mines were planted in different parts of the country;

Having taken Cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, held in Jeddah, from 24-29 June 1995;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses deep appreciation for the assistance extended by some Member Countries and OIC relevant bodies.

2. Urges the Member Countries to provide assistance to Afghanistan to solve its problems.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the question and report thereon to the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 16/23-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling resolution No. 15/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference and resolution No.15/22-E of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Aware that the Government of the Republic of Uganda is currently experiencing serious strain on its meagre resources as a result of the influx of refugees from neighbouring countries who flock into the country;

Recognizing that Uganda is offering asylum to large numbers of refugees whose number will increase if the state of unrest continues to escalate;

Having taken Cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Invites Member States and international organizations to grant urgent financial and economic assistance to Uganda so that it may cope with the refugees problem and other related consequences.

2. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the matter and report thereon to the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 17/23-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling resolution No. 16/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference and resolution No.16/22-E of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Confirming full solidarity of the Member Countries of the OIC with the Government and people of Azerbaijan at this grave and very critical time of the country's history;

Referring to the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions regarding this conflict;

Deploring the Armenian hostilities in the Negorno-Karabakh district of Azerbaijan followed by the occupation of about 20 percent of Azerbaijani territory which forced almost one million Azeri people to flee their homes in the face of the brutal attacks and gross violations of human rights by this aggression;

Recognizing the need to demonstrate in more concrete terms the solidarity of the OIC Member Countries with the Government and people of Azerbaijan;

Welcoming and appreciating the assistance extended by some Member Countries and OIC relevant bodies, United Nations institutions and international organizations;

Having taken Cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Appeals to the Member States and Islamic institutions to make available to the Government of Azerbaijan the much needed economic assistance with a view to alleviating the suffering of the Azeri people.

2. Calls upon the international organizations to provide urgent humanitarian, financial assistance to Azerbaijan.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the question and report thereon to the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 18/23-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF KYRGYZSTAN

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling resolution No. 17/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit and resolution No. 17/22-E of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Expressing its understanding of the situation which has arisen in the Republic of Kyrgyzstan after attainment of independence and sovereignty;

Taking into consideration the economic difficulties of the transitional period to the free market economy;

Expressing its sympathy towards the consequences of the natural disasters which struck the territory of Kyrgyzstan, thus affecting the socio-economic level of the brotherly people;

Having taken note of the progress report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses deep appreciation for the assistance extended by some Member Countries and OIC relevant bodies.

2. Appeals to all Muslims and Islamic financial institutions to be generous and to contribute to the process of overcoming the economic difficulties experienced by Kyrgyzstan either on bilateral basis or through multilateral and regional organisations so as to enable Kyrgyzstan to fulfil its economic programme.

3. Appeals to the Islamic Development Bank to increase its financial and technical assistance to Kyrgyzstan.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow up this matter and to report to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 19/23-E
ON
ASSISTANCE TO THE KASHMIRI PEOPLE

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the progress report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1- Expresses deep appreciation for the assistance extended by some Member Countries and OIC relevant bodies.

2- Appeals to Member States and Islamic institutions, such as the Islamic Solidarity Fund and Philanthropists, to contribute generously towards providing relief and humanitarian assistance to the Kashmiri people.

3- Requests the Secretary General to follow up the question and report thereon to the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 20/23-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Taking into consideration the economic difficulties faced by the Republic of Yemen which arose from the burdens of reunification and the big losses caused by the aborted secession attempt which took place in June 1994;

Appreciating the efforts exerted by the Yemeni Government on reconciliation, rebuilding of what was destroyed by the war and the development of the Yemeni economy;

Taking into consideration the further burdens borne by the Yemeni Government to provide shelter for groups of refugees from neighbouring African countries;

Recalling that Yemen is one of the least developed countries;

Having taken cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the progress report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses deep appreciation for the assistance extended by some Member Countries and OIC relevant bodies.

2. Calls upon the OIC Member States and the other regional and international organizations to extend all kind of economic assistance to help the Yemeni Government rebuild what has been destroyed by the war of secession and supports its efforts for development.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 21/23-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE STATE OF PALESTINE

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling resolutions adopted respectively by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference and the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Noting with great interest the role played by the Palestine National Authority in the Palestinian Self-rule regions in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, with a view to improving the living conditions of the Palestinian people and building up the national economy;

Having taken cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the progress report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses deep appreciation for the assistance extended by some Member Countries and OIC relevant bodies.

2. Commends the efforts made by the Palestine National Authority in the Palestinian Self-Rule regions in order to reconstruct what occupation had destroyed, with a view to promoting the efforts exerted to build up and consolidate the Palestinian national economy.

3. Expresses great appreciation for the assistance provided by some Member States to the Palestinian people in order to build up the national economy in the Palestinian Self-Rule regions in the West Bank and the Gaza-Strip.

4. Urges the speedy granting of the required and approved assistance by the concerned Member States and OIC bodies, with a view to helping the Palestine National Authority and the Palestinian people in the building up of the national economy and the consolidation of their national institutions.

5. Reaffirms the previous resolutions advocating the provision of all forms of support and assistance as well as economic, technical, material and moral assistance in support of the Palestinian people and the Palestine National Authority and Urges that preferential treatment be accorded to Palestinian products as regards importation and exemption of taxes and customs duties.

6. Urges businessmen and investors of OIC Member States to contribute to the implementation of economic, industrial, agricultural and housing projects in the Palestinian Self-Rule regions, with a view to building up the national economy and enabling the Palestine National Authority and its national institutions to implement their development programmes, during the coming transitional period, in the various economic, social and health fields.

7. Given the obstacles raised by Israel in the face of the Palestinian labour force, appeals to the OIC Member States to provide work opportunities to this Palestinian labour force, with a view to enhancing the socio-economic status of the Palestinian people and putting an end to unemployment.

8. Urges the OIC Member States to conclude bilateral agreements with the Palestine Liberation Organization and its National Authority in the economic, commercial and social field, with a view to enhancing the socio-economic status of the Palestinian people on their national soil.

9. Requests the OIC Secretary General to pursue his efforts aimed at implementing the previous resolutions adopted in support of the State of Palestine and submit a progress report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 22/23-E
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Bearing in mind the recent admission of the Republic of Mozambique to the Organization of the Islamic Conference during the Seventh Summit of Heads of States and Governments held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco in December, last year;

Noting with satisfaction that the process of pacification and democratization in place in Mozambique creates a climate of peace and harmony conducive to a solid platform of a true reconciliation among Mozambicans, a "sine-qua-non" condition for the implementation of economic and social programmes;

And appreciating the efforts being made by the Government of Mozambique in the implementation of the national reconstruction programme;

1. Calls upon all Member States to continue their support to the implementation of the programme of reconstruction of Mozambique.

2. Appeals to the Islamic Development Bank and all Islamic Institutions to provide the necessary financial assistance for the reconstruction and rehabilitation programmes of Mozambique, particularly those needed to ensure the social reintegration of returnees and internal displaced persons and demobilized combatants as for the demining programme in course in that counrtry.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this agreement and report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 23/23-E
ON
ACTIVITIES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION (COMCEC)

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling resolution No. 8/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994) on the question;

Recalling Resolution No. 2/6-E(IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference on the activities of the COMCEC mandating it to formulate new Strategies for the enhancement of the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation Among OIC Member States and to take appropriate action for its implementation;

Also recalling the Resolutions adopted at the previous Eleven Sessions of the COMCEC initiating effective action in economic cooperation among Member countries, particularly in the area of trade;

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the General Secretariat, subsidiary organs, affiliated and specialized institutions of OIC, working in the field of economy and trade, to implement the Resolutions of the COMCEC and underlining the pivotal role played by the Ankara Centre in the preparation of the New Plan of Action;

Recognizing the importance for the Member Countries of the new economic configurations emerging at the global level particularly from the creation of the Single European Market; creation and strengthening of regional economic groupings in the Americas, Asia and Pacific; progress in the Middle East Peace Process, and signing of the Uruguay Round Agreements and creation of the World Trade Organization;

Underlining the vital importance of the food security and agricultural development for the Member countries;

Noting with appreciation that the Fourth OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development was successfully held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran from 14 to 16 January 1995;

Having taken cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the progress report of the Secretary General on the subject;

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1. Notes with appreciation that the Strategy for Economic Cooperation adopted by the COMCEC allows for cooperation among sub-groups of Member countries and is based on the principles giving emphasis to private sector, economic liberalization, integration with the world economy, sanctity of the economic, political, legal and constitutional structures of the Member Countries and their international obligations.

2. Also notes with appreciation that the New Plan of Action is a general and flexible policy document open for improvement during its implementation in accordance with the provisions stipulated in its chapter on Follow-up and Implementation.

3. Emphasizes the need to urgently implement the New Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among Member Countries of OIC, in compliance with the principles and operational modalities of the Strategy and the procedures set forth in its chapter on Follow-up and Implementation.

4. Agrees that, instead of holding one inter-sectoral meeting, a series of meetings be held to deal either with one area or a number of interrelated areas at a time, on a priority basis, to implement the Plan of Action and calls for the incorporation of corrections as necessary to the chapter on follow up and implementation.

5. Invites the Member States to host sectoral meetings in the areas of cooperation listed in the Plan of Action.

6. Welcomes the offer of the Arab Republic of Egypt to host two sectoral experts group meetings in the areas of "Transport and Communications" and "Food, Agriculture and Rural Development" of the Plan of Action.

7. Welcomes the offer of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to host a sectoral meeting within the framework of the implementation of the Plan of Action.

8. Invites IDB to continue its active support in view of ensuring effective and urgent implementation of the New Plan of Action.

9. Notes with appreciation that starting with its Eleventh Session, COMCEC serves as a platform where the Ministers of Economy could exchange views on current world economic issues and, that the topic "implications on external trade of Member countries of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade Negotiations" was the theme for the 11th COMCEC.

10. Also notes with satisfaction that the theme "Privatization Experiences of the OIC Member Countries" will

be the theme for the exchange of views sessions of the 12th Session of COMCEC to be held from 2-5 November 1996 in Istanbul.

11. Requests the Secretary General of the OIC to follow up the implementation of the resolutions adopted by COMCEC and to continue extending to the latter every necessary assistance such as to enable it to better organize itself and fulfil its tasks and report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 24/23-E
ON
COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF TOURISM

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling Resolution No. 28/7 of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

Convinced that tourism forms a main pivot in economic development, cultural exchange and rapprochement between nations;

Having taken cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the progress report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Requests the General Secretariat to convene, as soon as possible, an Expert Group Meeting in the area of Tourism within the framework of COMCEC and the New Plan of Action to Strengthen the Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among OIC Member States.

2. Invites meanwhile, Member States to cooperate in the following areas:-

- provision and exchange of publicity and advertising materials on tourism in different languages,
- organizing special tourism and gastronomy weeks and popular art exhibitions in the Islamic world,
- production of documentary films on main touristic landmarks in the Islamic world,
- organizing group travel among Islamic countries, to strengthen bonds among the peoples of these countries,
- encouraging tourist investments in Islamic countries and directing investors to realize tourist projects in these countries.
- facilitating contacts among experienced tourist offices in Islamic countries.

3. Invites Member States to host the proposed Expert Group Meeting in the area of Tourism with a view to strengthening OIC joint action in this domain.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow up this matter and report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 25/23-E
ON
STATUS OF THE SIGNING AND RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENTS AND STATUTES

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling the Resolution No.18/7-E(IS) adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference and resolution No.18/22-E of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having reviewed the developments in respect of signature and/or ratification of the (i) Agreement on Promotion, Protection and Guarantee of Investments among Member States, (ii) General Agreement on Economic, Technical and Commercial Cooperation among Member States, (iii) Framework Agreement on the Establishment of the Trade Preferential System among OIC Member States, (iv) Statute of the Islamic Civil Aviation Council, (v) Islamic States Telecommunications Union, (vi) Agreement on Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investment and Export Credit;

Having taken cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having also taken cognizance of the resolutions issued by the Eleventh Session of COMCEC on the matter;

Having taken note with satisfaction of the progress report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses satisfaction at the efforts of the Secretary General, of the IDB and COMCEC to speed up the implementation of the Agreements and Statutes aimed at strengthening economic cooperation among Member States.

2. Also expresses satisfaction over the initiatives taken by COMCEC to effect the signing of the Agreements/Statutes that fall within the framework of Inter-Islamic cooperation among COMCEC Sessions and recommends that this practice be pursued.

3. Notes with satisfaction that 16 Member countries have already signed the Framework Agreement and that Seven have ratified it and urges those who have not yet done so, to do it as soon as possible so as to enable the required negotiations to start.

4. Calls upon Member States which have not yet signed and/or ratified the above mentioned Agreements/Statutes to do so, at an early date.

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5. Also Notes with satisfaction that the Agreements for the establishment of the Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investment and Export Credit have come into effect as of 1 August 1994.

6. Expresses its thanks and appreciation to the IDB for its efforts to establish the Corporation.

7. Invites to Member States which have not yet done so, to sign and ratify the Agreement of the Corporation and pay their respective subscriptions to its capital to make it possible to draw the expected benefits at the widest scale possible within the OIC system.

8. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the question and report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 26/23-E
ON
REVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SUBSIDIARY ORGANS ACTIVE IN THE ECONOMIC AND TRADE FIELDS.

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling the Resolution No. 19/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

Also recalling Resolution No.19/22-E of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the activities of the Subsidiary Organs of the OIC, namely; the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTCIC), Ankara; the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), Casablanca; the Islamic Institute of Technology (IIT), Dhaka; and the Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development (IFSTAD), Jeddah, respectively;

Having also taken note with satisfaction of the activity reports submitted by the representatives of the above-mentioned subsidiary organs;

Appreciating the increasing number of joint activities among the OIC organs and agencies;

Expressing its appreciation at the role played by the subsidiary organs in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation Among Member States;

Also expressing appreciation for the role played by the Subsidiary Organs in the elaboration of the New Strategy and the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among OIC Member States;

Having taken cognizance of the recommendation of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Commends the role which the Ankara, Casablanca and Dhaka Centres and IFSTAD are playing each in their respective fields.

2. Urges the Member States to actively participate in the work of these organs.

3. Expresses its concern over the persistent financial difficulties faced by the subsidiary organs on account of the non-payment of mandatory contributions by some

Member States and the Member States's arrears which form an impediment to the fulfillment of these institutions' work programmes.

4. Urges these member States to honour their regular mandatory contributions to the budgets of these bodies and to settle their arrears at the earliest in view of the current financial difficulties being faced by these organs which make them unable to fulfil their responsibilities and even threaten their very existence.

5. Also urges the Member States to benefit from the special services offered by the subsidiary organs, above and beyond the tasks assigned to them in their work programmes, on a contractual basis.

6. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the question and report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 27/23-E
ON
SUPPORT TO THE ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK (IDB)

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Having taken note of the Resolution No. 6/6-E(IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 20/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

Having examined with appreciation of the activity report of the Islamic Development Bank on the subject;

Noting with satisfaction that the Islamic Development Bank continues to expand its field of operation and activity concerning project financing, trade import and export financing, technical assistance, technical cooperation, special assistance and other fields of cooperation such as food security;

Noting with appreciation that the Bank has played an active role in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Plan of Action adopted by the Third Islamic Summit as well as of the various decisions of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC);

Further noting with satisfaction that within the framework of its commitments aimed at meeting its Member States' needs, the Bank has had to elaborate strategies of new programmes some of which were initiated under the auspices of COMCEC for the promotion of inter-Islamic trade;

Noting with satisfaction that the Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investment and Export Credit (ICIEC) commenced its operations in July 1995, and expressing thanks and appreciation to IDB for its efforts in successfully finalizing the establishment of the Corporation;

Having taken cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken cognizance of the Resolutions of the Eleventh Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC), held in Istanbul, from 5-8 November 1995;

Having taken note of the progress report of the Secretary General on the subject;

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1. Expresses its deep satisfaction for the devotion and efficiency with which the IDB President and his assistants are ensuring the good functioning of this institution which continues making an invaluable contribution to the development and progress of Muslim populations.

2. Requests the Islamic Development Bank to keep up its beneficial action and reorientiate its action with a view to increasing its services to the Member States, and to the Islamic Ummah at large.

3. Congratulates the Islamic Development Bank on having set up the Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investment and Export Credit.

4. Requests Member States to participate in various schemes recently launched by the Islamic Development Bank and to benefit from the Longer Term Trade Financing Scheme, Islamic Banks' Portfolio, IDB Unit Investment Fund, the Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investment and Export Credit along with IDB's other existing schemes, programmes and operations.

5. Appeals to the Member States who have not yet done so, to sign and ratify the Articles of Agreement of the Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investment and Export Credit and to pay their respective shares to its capital so that its benefits would be extended to as wide an OIC area as possible.

6. Requests the General Secretariat, the IDB, the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry and ICDT to jointly organise seminars on regional basis on the various schemes approved by the COMCEC namely the Longer Term Trade Financing System, the Islamic Export Credit and Investment Guarantee Corporation, the Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System among OIC Member States and the Islamic Clearing Union with a view of ensuring efficient and the speedy implementation of these schemes for the benefit of business community of the Islamic Ummah.

7. Also invites the Member States which have not yet done so to subscribe to the second capital increase of the IDB and to settle their outstanding contributions and other financial commitments.

8. Calls upon to the Member States to lend their support to the Bank so as to enable it to fulfil its obligations and commitments towards fostering economic development and social progress of the Muslim World.

9. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 28/23-E
ON
AFFILIATED INSTITUTIONS OF THE OIC OPERATING IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMY AND COMMERCE

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17-20 Rajab 1415H (09-12 December 1995),

Recalling the Resolution No. 21/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference and resolution No. 21/22-E of the Twenty-Second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, on the activities of the OIC Affiliated Institutions;

Taking cognizance of the activity reports submitted by the representatives of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI); Islamic Shipowners Association (ISA); and the International Association of Islamic Banks (IAIB), and appreciating the recent Trade Mission effected by the ICCI to five countries in West Africa;

Expressing its appreciation for the role played by the affiliated institutions in the implementation of the Plan of Action to strengthen economic cooperation among Member States;

Also expressing its appreciation for the role played by the affiliated institutions in the elaboration of the new strategy of the COMCEC Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation Among Member Countries;

Confirming the important role the Private Sector has to play in the development of Member States and promotion of Intra-Islamic Cooperation;

Also appreciating the role played by these three institutions in their respective fields of action;

Having taken cognizance of the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Also Having taken cognizance of the Resolutions of the Eleventh Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC);

Having taken note of the progress report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Notes with appreciation the important role which the ICCI, the ISA, and the the IAIB are assuming in their respective fields.

2. Expresses thanks and appreciation to the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Federation of Egyptian Chambers of Commerce for hosting and organizing the

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Second Private Sector Meeting, in collaboration with the General Secretariat of the Islamic Chamber, which was held from 30 September to 02 October 1995 in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt.

3. Takes note with appreciation of the recommendations contained in the Report of the Second Private Sector Meeting and in the Cairo Declaration.

4. Congratulates the ICCI for its important initiative aimed at maintaining contacts with businessmen in Member States and promoting socio-economic development in OIC member countries.

5. Urges to the Governments of OIC member countries to encourage their Federations of Chambers of Commerce and Industry to develop a framework of cooperation with the Islamic Chamber and contribute to its programmes to enhance trade and investment among Islamic countries.

6. Appreciates the efforts undertaken by the Islamic Chamber to host the Third Private Sector Meeting in Jakarta, in collaboration with the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce, concurrently with the Sixth Islamic Trade Fair in October 1996 and calls upon the member countries to take measures needed to ensure effective participation of their private sectors in that meeting.

7. Further appreciates the offer of the Republic of Uganda to host the Fourth Private Sector Meeting.

8. Commends the current initiatives taken by the Islamic Shipowners Association to establish a Maritime Company and Cooperative Information System (CIS).

9. Urges the Member States which have not done so yet, to sign the Statute of the Islamic Shipowners Association.

10. Appeals to Member States to continue to extend their support and assistance to the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Islamic Shipowners Association, and the International Association of Islamic Banks.

11. Invites the Islamic Shipowners Association to speed up the progress of establishing Islamic Shipping Companies and urge Member States to encourage the participation of national maritime companies and businessmen of their respective countries to join these companies as well as organizing Liner Conferences and/or coordinating their positions in such Liner Conferences.

12. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION No.29/23-E
ON
ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD INCLUDING ISRAELI PRACTICES AND THEIR EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES, THE OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN AND OTHER ISRAELI OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES.

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December 1995),

A) Environmental Problems in the Islamic World.

Recalling previous Resolutions on this subject especially Resolutions 2/19-E of the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, 17/21-E of the Twenty-first Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, 22/22-E of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, and 22/7-E (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

Continuing to Stress the right of all human beings especially that in developing countries to obtain sustainable economic development, and to enjoy a healthy and non-polluted environment, as a basic human right;

Re-emphasizing the right of States to protect their environment from harmful activities, and to cooperate among themselves to that end;

Noting with concern that the condition of the environment has reached a stage that requires taking effective measures to stop its deterioration;

Recognizing that environmental destruction is a major global concern that requires the strengthening of international cooperation for the protection of the environment;

Noting with satisfaction the adoption and signature in Paris in September 1994 of the International Convention to combat desertification and drought and underlining the urgent necessity to implement it;

Stressing the need for closely and constantly monitoring the global environmental situation and relevant activities;

Also expressing its deep concern over the devastating effects of hazardous, toxic and radioactive wastes on human- kind and the environment;

Strongly condemning the attempts by some developed countries to export their hazardous & radioactive wastes

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for dumping in developing countries and appealing to Member States to sign the Basel Convention on Dangerous Wastes & the Bamako Convention & relevant international agreements;

Guided by the principles of Islam which enjoin the Muslim peoples to safeguard the bounties that Allah has granted them on Earth;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on this subject:

1- Requests Member States to take into account environmental considerations in their developmental policies.

2- Urges Member States which have not yet done so, to ratify the International Convention to combat Desertification and Drought in order to enable its early implementation.

3- Further urges Member States to mobilize financial and institutional resources necessary for the execution of national and sub-regional programmes of action for the protection of the environment.

4- Urges the Member States to attach greater importance to the question of the protection of the Environment and Natural Resources and to its relevance to sustainable development.

5- Appeals the international community to conduct active scientiftic research on teh increase in sea level so as to protect the flaura and fauna in the territories of the Member States.

6- Further appeals developed countries to honour their commitments in current International Agreements with regard to the transfer of financial resources and environmentally sound technologies to developing countries.

7- Reaffirms the determination of the Member States to work for the strengthening of internaitonal cooperation with a view to seeking solutions to global environmental problems.

8- Stresses that multilateral cooperation for the protection of the environment should include the provision of new additional financial resources and access to environmentally sound technologies to the developing countries.

9- Calls for the dissemination of pilot experiments in the application of environmental development of the Islamic States and the use of the latter's available expertise in this regard, whether through bilateral or multilateral programmes for the exchange of expertise.

10- Requests Member States to promote coordination and cooperation among environment monitoring networks and remote-control sensing centres and coastal control posts and all other environment protection organs in Islamic States.

11- Urges all Member States to continue consultation and coordination among them at all international meetings and consultations relating to environment protection, especially in the field of hazardous & radioactive waste.

12- Expresses its satisfaction over the fruitful cooperation now existing between the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations Environment Programme;

13- Calls for the intensification of this cooperation with special reference to the problem of war remnants of World War II and other wars in the Islamic countries, which impedes development of its societies, calls on the international community to address the problem immediately and take the necessary measures to remove land mines & war remnants.

14- Expresses solidarity with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya concerning its position on the question of the mine-fields remaining in its territory from World War II, their grave effect on environment and the accidents and grievous damages they caused to thousands of its citizens. Also appeals to Member States to stand in solidarity with the Jamahiriya in its efforts to overcome this problem and its right to demand compensation for such damages and that the countries responsible for the mine danger finance mine-hunting operations and produce mine fields maps to the Libyan authorities concerned.

15- Requests the parties in the World War II to provide the Islamic States with the information, data and maps of the mines planted in their territories during the war and to extend the assistance required for the removal of these mines that do still causes damages to the human lives and obstruct development and constructions in vital areas.

B) Israeli practices and their effects on the environment in the occupied Palestinian territories, the occupied Syrian Golan and other Israeli occupied Arab territories.

Recalling Previous OIC and other International Resolutions on this subject;

Also recalling resolutions 14/11 and 15/18 of the UN Environment Programme with respect to the environmental conditions in the occupied Palestinian Arab Territories, occupied Syrian Golan, Lebanese and other occupied Arab territories;

Referring to the relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly and Security Council and the ECOSOC;

Reaffirming the rights of mankind to a dignified life enjoying a healthy environment, free of pollution as a basic human and sacred right;

Re-emphasing the principle that nations under foreign occupation must enjoy the right of permanent sovereignty on their national resources;

Expressing deep concern over the brutal practices of the Israeli occupation authorities which include seizure of land and water-resources, the demolition of houses, the construction of new settlements in the occupied Palestinian and Arab Territories, specially in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the Syrian Golan, the uprooting of trees, the destruction of crops, the cutting off of irrigation waters, the deforestation of wide expanses of land and the use of toxic gases with the attendant serious effects on the Palestinian and other Arab inhabitants and the economic and social situation in those lands;

Appreciating the Report presented by Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development on the environmental problems of the occupied Palestinian and Arab occupied territories which was presented during the 21st Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having examined the Report of the Secretary General on this subject:

1- Condemns and censures Israel for its aggressive policies, the confiscation of Palestinian lands, setting forests on fire, the uprooting of trees, the cutting off of irrigation water and the seizure of water resources, thereby leading to considerable deterioration of ecological conditions in occupied Palestine and to a worsening of the economic and social situation of the citizens.

2- Stressed the inalienable right of the Palestinian population and the citizens in the Occupied Syrian Golan and in the other occupied Arab territories and considered the violation of these rights as unjustified.

3- Requests the Islamic countries to continue to extend help and assistance to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan and the Arab citizens in the Lebanese occupied territories in the drawing up of plans deemed necessary for environmental conservation within these territories and stresses that implemental measures be adopted for

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consolidating plans and taking steps required for exposing the policies pursued by Israeli occupation authorities which have led to ecological deterioration in the occupied Palestinian territories, the occupied Syrian Golan and the Lebanese occupied territories.

4- Strongly Condemns Israel's persistence in changing the legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan and its practices aimed at changing its environmental conditions as well as its geographical, demographic and historical characteristics and at imposing Israeli laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan and in South Lebanon and Western Bekaa occupied by Israel.

5- Condemns Israel's continuous pursuit of nuclear programmes that are bound to cause serious damages to the ;neighbouring Islamic States as these programmes are not subject to the monitoring of the International Atomic Energy Agency and calls upon the international parties and bodies concerned to adopt the measures necesssary for putting an end to these damages.

6- Acknowledges the valuable nature of the IFSTAD report on the crucial environmental issues affecting the Member States and strongly emphasize the need for further similar indepth studies pertaining to such issues so that the Member States are kept abreast of their future development and implications.

7. Requests that the proposals for action included in the report prepared by the Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development should be considered for implementation.

RESOLUTION NO.30/23-E
ON
COOPERATION AMONG MEMBER STATES AGAINST EPIDEMIC DISEASES WHICH AFFECT HUMAN, ANIMAL RESOURCES AND NATURAL LIFE

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Expressing grave concern at the worldwide spreading of infectious diseases affecting human, animal resources and natural life during recent years;

Considering the magnitude it has reached in recent years, especially in view of the extensive travels within and outside the Member States and, particularly during the Hajj;

Appreciating the steps taken by the Member States in preventive and curative health measures for the pilgrimage season in particular;

Also expressing profound appreciation for the excellent and efficient health services made available to the Pilgrims by the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on this subject:

1- Calls for greater coordination among the Member States, the other countries and the World Health Organization to combat these menaces through the use of new recombitant vaccines and immunization schedules against contagious diseases.

2- Appeals for greater coordination and cooperation in the field of health and cooperation by applying the international health regulations such as compulsory vaccination of all Pilgrims coming to the Holy Land and the improvement of sanitary conditions as well as cooperation in their health education before departure through the appropriate media available in their own countries.

3- Requests that a meeting of the Ministers of Health of Member States may be convened at an appropriate time on the subject of epidemic diseases.

4- Requests the Secretary General to take appropriate steps for the implementation of this Resolution.

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RESOLUTION NO. 31/23-E
ON
COOPERATION IN COMBATTING DRUG ABUSE, PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AND THEIR ILLEGAL PRODUCTION, PROCESSING AND TRAFFICKING.

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Fifth Islamic Summit and 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st and 22nd Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers and the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference on the Control of Narcotics and Drug Abuse;

Concerend at the rising rate of drug abuse, their manufacture and illegal trafficking that endanger the health of millions, particularly the youth;

Noting with concern the new dimensions of the ever growing narcotics problem which is threatening the social and economic structures of countries suffering therefrom;

Taking into consideration the results achieved by the United Nations and its specialized agencies in the field of drug abuse, including the declaration and comprehensive multidisciplinary plan for the prevention of drug abuse and their adoption by the International Conference on Drug Abuse and their illegal trafficking in 1987 and the United Nations Agreement on Control of Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances and illegal drug trafficking;

Noting with appreciation the declaration and world programme of action adopted by the 17th U. N. Special Session held in New York in February 1990, and the declaration of the London Conference on Control of Cocaine and restriction of drugs (April 1990);

Reaffirming its conviction of the need to supervise the manufacture, trafficking, import and export of drugs and psychotropic substances, in accordance with the single U. N. Agreement on drugs of 1961 and the U. N. Agreement for combatting illegal trafficking of Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;

Recognizing the importance of taking measures for controlling components of drugs including sulphur chemicals and solvents which are used in the manufacture of drugs and psychotropic substances, the availability of which increased their illicit processing;

Affirming the guiding principles of enforced treaties on control of narcotics and psychotropic substances as well as the control measures advocated by these treaties;

Realizing the urgent need for Member States and relevant international organizations to exert planned and coordinated efforts to eradicate the problem of abusing narcotics and psychotropic substances, trading and smuggling them into Islamic countries;

Reviewing the effects of drug abuse, psychotropic substances and their illegal production, processing and trafficking on the Member States;

Having examined the Secretary General's Report on this subject:

1. _Requests_ the Member States to diligently follow up guidelines contained in the recommendations made by the OIC Expert Group Meeting held from 18-20 October 1988 in Istanbul, Turkey, on the effective measures to control the problem of narcotic drugs in all its aspects and dimensions, including illicit production, processing and trade.

2. _Urges_ the Member States to coordinate their efforts to unify their systems relative to the legal manufacture and importation of psychotropic substances within the frameworks of the relevant international organizations.

3. _Welcomes_ the measures taken by some Member States to draw attention to the damaging effect of narcotics and affirms the importance of preventive measures including the need for crop/income substitution and accessibility to international markets for substituted products.

4. _Requests_ the Member States to continue to intensify their cooperation and to exchange information and technical expertise to control narcotic drugs.

RESOLUTION NO. 32/23-E
ON
ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND WAYS AND MEANS TO DEAL WITH THE ISSUES OF ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Acknowledging the effective interdisciplinary relation between Environment and other sectors of Development including Health;

Considering the importance for Member States to preserve the basic necessities of sustainable development and to assess and monitor on a continuous basis their environmental problems and issues including Health;

Noting with appreciation the awareness of the Member States about Environmental issues and their active role within the UNCED process and its follow-up;

Appreciating the Reports of the Environment prepared by the General Secretariat of IFSTAD;

Recalling the relevant resolutions adopted in this regard by the previous Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers especially the Twenty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers No.25/22-E, and the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference (25/7-E(IS);

Conscious of the dire need of the Member States to avail themselves of objective, independent and unbiased information pertaining to their environmental situation and possible remedies that would best serve their interests;

Appreciative of the Environment-related efforts, projects and programmes undertaken by the General Secretariat of the OIC, and its Subsidiary Organs and by the Standing Committee for Scientific and Technical Cooperation COMSTECH;

Having examined the Report of the Secretary Genral on this subject:

1. Welcomes the initiative of the Republic of Tunisia during the 21st ICFM inviting effective cooperation among the Member States and requesting the relevant OIC, regional and international institutions to conduct a comprehensive study of the interrelated issues of Environment, Health and Sustainable Development from the perspective that would best serve the interests of the Member States.

2. Renews its request that the Secretary General undertakes the above mentioned study by constituting a Governmental Experts Committee comprising at least two Representatives from each geographic region of the OIC and also the Representatives concerned from the General Secretariat and IFSTAD to meet in Tunisia in order to:

(a) draft the guidelines for the above study;

(b) discuss the terms of reference of the said study and work out the administrative, logistic and financial details of its implementation.

3. Decides that the requested study should be carried out through IFSTAD in close consultation with the Member States and their relevant institutions and the General Secretariat, and in cooperation with regional and international organisations.

4. Requests the Secretary General to submit the results of the aforesaid study by the Governmental Experts Committee to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers for consideration.

Annex V

REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS
ON
CULTURAL AND ISLAMIC AFFAIRS

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REPORT OF THE CULTURAL AND ISLAMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE TWENTY-THIRD ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS
(SESSION OF PEACE, SOLIDARITY AND TOLERANCE)
CONAKRY - REPUBLIC OF GUINEA
17-20 RAJAB 1416-H.
9-12 DECEMBER, 1995.

1- The Cultural and Islamic Affairs Committee of the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers met in Conakry, Republic of Guinea from 17-20 Rajab 1416-H corresponding to December 9-12, 1995 in order to examine the agenda items pertaining to Cultural and Islamic Affairs, the General Assembly of the Conference.

2- The deliberations of the Cultural and Islamic Affairs Committee were opened by His Excellency Ambassador Facinet Bangoura of the Republic of Guinea, host to the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers. His Excellency started the meeting by welcoming the delegates present and wishing them a pleasant stay in their second home. His Excellency emphasized the need for the Committee's deliberations to be characterized by realism. He added that, despite the huge responsibility that lies with us, we are convinced that fraternal cooperation, mutual understanding among the august members and devotion to Islam will ensure the success of the Committee's proceedings. His Excellency also proposed a work programme which was unanimously approved by the Committee.

3- According to the decision of the General Assembly, it was understood that the Bureau of the Committee would be made up of the following member countries:

- The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia - Vice-Chairman.
- The Republic of Azerbaijan - Vice-Chairman.
- The State of Palestine - Vice-Chairman.
- The Kingdom of Morocco - Rapporteur.

4- The General Secretariat was represented by Ambassador Ibrahim Auf, Assistant Secretary General for Cultural Affairs and Information and Mr. Ahmed Ali Ghazali, Director of Cultural and Islamic Affairs.

5- The Committee's deliberations considered the agenda Items 53 to 60. The Committee's deliberations on each item were preceded by a background presentation made by the Assistant Secretary General for Cultural Affairs and the draft resolutions were adopted unanimously by the participants.

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6- A special emphasis was put on the financial difficulties faced by the subsidiary Organs, Universities and Islamic Cultural Institutions, in their functioning. It was maintained to renew the pressing appeal to the Member Countries for a rapid solution to this crisis.

7- The Committee adopted the report on its deliberations and approved the draft resolutions relating to the items on its agenda annexed to this report.

8- The Committee commended the Chairman for his excellent conduct of the deliberations and for his good performance which contributed to the conclusion of the deliberations in an optimal manner.

9- The Committee's Chairman expressed his very sincere thanks to all the members for the brotherly atmosphere which prevailed during the meeting and for their thorough knowledge of the questions examined which enabled the Committee to achieve positive results within the allotted time.

10. The Chairman also expressed his thanks to the Assistant Secretary General for his excellent assistance in conducting the Committee's proceedings. He also extended his sincere thanks to the technical staff and translators and interpretors for the competent performance of their tasks.

Conakry, 19 Rajab, 1416H.
Corresponding to 11 December, 1995.

RESOLUTION NO.1 /23-C
ON THE
ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN NIGER

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Noting with satisfaction the efforts made by the Government of Niger, the OIC General Secretariat, the Board of Trustees of the University, the IDB and the ISF for the continuation of the University's action and smooth functioning of the Islamic University of Niger.

Expressing its thanks to Member States, Al-Azhar Al-Shareef, the Islamic Development Bank, Rabitah Al-Alam Al-Islami, the International Islamic Charitable Organization, World Islamic Da'wa Association and the United Arab Emirates as well as to the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (ISESCO), the Iqra Charitable Organisation and the Sheikh Zayed Institution for Humanitarian and charitable Works and to all those who extended support and assistance for the establishment and functioning of the University;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on the Islamic University in Niger;

Recognizing the need to provide the University with regular financial resources and the necessary educational and material support.

Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 1/7-C (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

1. Expresses its heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the Government of Niger and the University Board of Trustees for their fruitful cooperation and persistent efforts which led to the reopening of the University and the resumption of its activity. It also expresses its appreciation for the positive cooperation of the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization in supervising the academic and cultural aspects of the educational action of the University.

2. Commends to the consistent support extended by the ISF to meet to the major part of the University's annual budget and appeals to the Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, and Islamic Charity Organizations to give financial and material support to this important Islamic institution, considering the annual deficit the modest budget of this university is faced with due to the lack of resources.

3. Also reaffirms the need of establishing a Waqf whose proceeds would be sufficient to ensure steady resources for the University as is the case for the Islamic University in Uganda, urges donors to step up their efforts to achieve this objective and requests the University Board of Trustees to act in this direction with a view to securing a final solution to the long-term financial problems of the University.

4. Expresses its appreciation to the Government of Niger for having donated a plot of land in central Niamey as a Waqf for the Islamic University of Say.

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RESOLUTION NO. 2/23-C
ON THE
ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN UGANDA

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Çonakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the previous Resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Islamic University in Uganda;

Expressing appreciation to the Government of Uganda for having ratified the University Statute and its submission of instruments of ratification at the OIC General Secretariat;

Expressing its gratitude to the Member States, particularly the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, as well as to the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Islamic Development Bank, the International Islamic Charitable Foundation (Kuwait), the International Islamic Da'wah Association (Libya), the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent, and other Islamic institutions for their generous support to the University;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on the Islamic University in Uganda;

Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 2/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

1. Invites the Board of Trustees to continue its action to ensure appropriate conditions for the University to fulfill its tasks in accordance with its Statute and the Headquarters Agreement signed by the Government of Uganda and the OIC General Secretariat.

2. Appeals to the Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the Islamic Charity Institutions, to contribute material and financial assistance for the annual operating budget of the Islamic University in Uganda and which is faced with an annual deficit due to the lack of financial resources.

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3. _Expresses_ its satisfaction with the involvement of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the supervision of the educational and cultural aspects of the teaching process in the University, the elaboration of appropriate curriculums, the adoption of the necessary books and reference material and assistance to strengthen the teaching of the Arabic language in the University.

4. _Commends_ the generous financial support extended by the Government of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques through the establishment of a Waqf for the University. It also expresses its thanks to the Government of the Republic of Uganda for having donated a plot of land in central Kampala to the Islamic University in Uganda, as a contribution towards the setting up of the Waqf. The Conference also commends the provision by the Islamic Solidarity Fund, of financial assistance to the Islamic University in Uganda for the past academic years, which enabled the University to continue assuming its tasks throughout the difficult circumstances it had experienced.

5. _Appeals_ to Member States and the IDB to make donations for the construction of faculty buildings for the University.

RESOLUTION NO. 3/23-C
ON THE
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN MALAYSIA

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the previous Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the Recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the International Islamic University in Malaysia;

Also taking note of the continuing satisfactory progress of this University;

Expressing appreciation to the Government of Malaysia for its continued material and financial and other support towards covering the operating expenses of the University and the construction of its new campus;

Also expressing appreciation to Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and other Islamic institutions which have extended moral and material assistance to the University;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on the subject;

Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 3/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

1. Requests anew that the OIC General Secretariat and the Member States further contribute to the progress and development of the International Islamic University in Malaysia so that it can further increase its capacity and use all its potential to achieve its objectives.

2. Notes with great satisfaction the progress achieved by the University in the fields of research and learning, thanks to its enlightened management and to the support extended by the Malaysian Government to all its activities.

3. Appeals to all Member States which have not yet concluded Agreements of Co-sponsorship of this University, within the framework of their bilateral cooperation with Malaysia to do so at an early date.

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4. Reiterates its request of all Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, ISESCO and other Islamic institutions to continue supporting this University by extending financial aid, supplying the University with academic reference books and manuals to enrich its library and giving it of any other relevant assistance such as curricula, teachers and scholarships to enable more students to enrol in this University.

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RESOLUTION NO. 4/23-C
ON THE
ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN BANGLADESH

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences on the Islamic University of Bangladesh;

Noting the progress so far achieved towards the establishment of this University, and the execution of other necessary works;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 4/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

1. Commends the steps taken by the People's Republic of Bangladesh for the development of the University, bearing its operational costs and the building of the new University Campus so as to accommodate a larger number of students.

2. Expresses its appreciation to the Member States and Islamic institutions which have extended assistance to the University.

3. Urges all Member States, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Islamic Development Bank, the Muslim World League and other Islamic financial institutions to provide adequate academic and financial assistance to the University so that it can achieve its objectives.

4. Calls upon the General Secretariat to pursue its contacts with the People's Republic of Bangladesh to ensure continued financial and moral support to the University.

5. Also calls upon the General Secretariat, in cooperation with ISESCO, to provide academic assistance to the Islamic University in Bangladesh, from Member States Universities through secondment of teachers and provision of scholarships and books.

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RESOLUTION NO. 5/23-C
ON
KING FAISAL MOSQUE IN NDJAMENA, REPUBLIC OF CHAD

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the various Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on King Faisal Mosque in Ndjamena, Republic of Chad;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 5/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

1. Emphasizes the pressing need for the Islamic and educational services provided by this Islamic institution, King Faisal Mosque as one of the Islamic educational institutions that needs special attention on the part of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and ISESCO.

2. Requests the Government of the Republic of Chad and the General Secretariat to prepare the technical study and cost estimates needed for the rehabilitation of the Mosque and its annexes and to communicate them to Member States.

3. Urges all Member States to make financial contributions towards the restoration and furnishing of the Mosque and its annexes.

4. Requests all Member States and Islamic financial institutions to contribute to this institution by providing it with curricula, teachers and scholarships for graduate students so as to enable them to pursue their higher studies in other Islamic Universities.

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RESOLUTION NO. 6/23-C
ON THE
REGIONAL INSTITUTE OF ISLAMIC STUDIES AND RESEARCH, TIMBUCTU, MALI.

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers. (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the previous Resolutions adopted by the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the recommendations adopted by the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Regional Institute of Islamic Studies and Research in Timbuctu (Mali);

Welcoming the efforts being made by the Government of the Republic of Mali and the General Secretariat for the development of the Institute;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 6/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

1. Appeals to all Member States, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and other Islamic institutions to continue providing material support to the Regional Institute of Islamic Studies and Research in Timbuctu so that it may achieve its objectives.

2. Appeals to the Member States which have technical facilities in the fields of conservation and processing of manuscripts to provide scholarships to the officials of the Institute to enhance their competence in these fields.

3. Expresses its thanks to the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA) and invites them to pay greater attention to the Institute and provide it with the necessary technical assistance so that it may continue to carry out its functions.

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RESOLUTION NO. 7/23-C
ON THE
REGIONAL INSTITUTE FOR COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION (RICE), ISLAMABAD (PAKISTAN)

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the previous Resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations adopted by the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Regional Institute for Complementary Education in Islamabad;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 7/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

1. Emphasizes once again, the importance of establishing the Regional Institute for Complementary Education (RICE) in Islamabad, Pakistan, and promoting the teaching of the Arabic language and Islamic culture in non-Arabic speaking Asian countries.

2. Expresses its appreciation of the efforts of the Government of Pakistan to establish this Institute and ensure its operation and extends its thanks to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the financial support it has extended to the Institute and to the Arab Republic of Egypt for the secondment of Arabic and religious affairs teachers. It also expresses appreciation to the ISF for its financial assistance to the Institute.

3. Appeals to the Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the World Federation of International Arab-Islamic Schools to contribute generously to this project.

RESOLUTION NO. 8/23-C ON THE ISLAMIC CENTRE IN GUINEA-BISSAU

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers .(Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations made by the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Islamic Centre in Guinea-Bissau;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on the subject;

Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 8/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

1. Expresses its satisfaction at the implementation of phase I of the project of the Islamic Centre in Guinea-Bissau.

2. Requests the Government of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and the General Secretariat to continue their coordination with a view to completing the ongoing construction of the Great Mosque in Bissau, within the limits of the financial resources currently available.

3. Calls on all Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the Islamic institutions to provide financial and material assistance to the project of the Islamic Centre in Guinea-Bissau.

RESOLUTION NO. 9/23-C
ON THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
ISLAMIC CULTURAL CENTRE IN MORONI, ISLAMIC FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF COMOROS

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations adopted by the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the establishment of an Islamic Cultural Centre in Moroni, Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros;

Taking into consideration the need of the Muslim people in the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros for such a centre;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on the Centre in question;

Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 9/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

1. _Calls on_ the General Secretariat to continue its coordination with the Government of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros with a view to overcoming the difficulties that hinder the establishment of the Islamic Cultural Centre in Moroni and expediting the establishment of the Centre given its benefits for the Comorian and the neighbouring peoples.

2. _Expresses_ its appreciation to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Indonesia, the Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam, the United Arab Emirates, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the World Islamic Dawa Association (Libya) which have been the first to give financial assistance to the Centre.

3. _Urges_ all Member States and Islamic institutions to render every possible assistance to this project.

RESOLUTION NO. 10/23-C
ON THE
ISLAMIC INSTITUTE OF TRANSLATION IN KHARTOUM
(REPUBLIC OF SUDAN)

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the relevant paragraph of the Twenty-First ICFM on the Islamic Institute of Translation in Khartoum and the recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken Note of the report submitted by the Secretary General of the Organization on the said Institute;

And appreciating the efforts being exerted by the Sudanese Government so as to enhance this Institute and to ensure its continuity;

1. Urges the Member States to extend assistance to the Institute so as to enable it to continue to play its important role in teaching and training the students.

2. Urges the OIC Subsidiary and specialized organs as well as the relevant centres and quarters to extend financial and technical support to the Institute, to cooperate with it in the fields of common interest to them.

RESOLUTION NO.11/23-C
ON
STUDYING WAYS AND MEANS OF IMPLEMENTING AND EXECUTING THE CULTURAL STRATEGY AND THE PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the Declaration of Makkah Al-Mukarramah issued by the Third Islamic Summit Conference and the various resolutions adopted by other Islamic Conferences and particularly Resolution 1/6-C(IS) by virtue of which the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference held in Dakar adopted the Islamic World's Cultural Strategy and the attendent Plan of Action;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the Cultural Strategy and the Plan of Action for the Islamic world as well as the report prepared by the First Meeting of Officials of OIC Subsidiary, Specialized and Affiliated Organs and Islamic Universities concerning the implementation of the Cultural Strategy;

Recomemdends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 15/7-C (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in CAsasblanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

1. Reiterates the importance of this strategy in the field of ensuring a wider propagation of learning, eradicating ignorance, raising the level of Islamic education and culture in the Islamic world and enhancing Joint Islamic Action.

2. Recommends the continuation of the remarkable efforts being exerted for the implementation of the strategy through the programme of action already approved by the Islamic Conference of Foreign Minisgters at its Twenty-first Session held in Karachi, in April, 1993; directs the OIC General Secretariat to submit this plan to the next session of COMIAC, and recommends that a meeting of the concerned Ministers be convened for this purpose and present a report to the next Conference of Foreign Ministers.

3. Requests Member States to take the necessasry steps for incorporating the strategy into their national policies in the cultural and educational fields.

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RESOLUTION NO. 12/23-C
ON THE
ADOPTION OF A UNIFIED STAND ON THE BELITTLING OF ISLAMIC SANCTITIES AND VALUES

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in ·Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Emphasizing the objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on coordinating efforts to protect the sacred values and places;

Expressing deep concern at the aggressions, by the spoken and written words as well as by action against Muslims in many parts of the world targeting their values, sanctities, selves, properties and religious and cultural heritage, in addition to the violation, curtailment and denial of their basic rights and freedoms relating to their belief and the exercise of rituals;

Recalling the resolutions and statements of the various and successive Islamic Conferences on the Adoption of a Unified Stand on the Belittling of Islamic Sanctities and Values, especially Resolution No. 17/7-C (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

Expressing its deep concern at the killing of Muslims and the aggression against their shrines in Palestine, India, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Jammu and Kashmir as well as other parts of the world;

Taking note of the legal study prepared by the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the legal and procedural aspects relating the conclusion of an international legal document that ensures respect for Islamic values and sanctities;

1. Condemns anew these aggressions and violations wherever they may be and whatever their source, means or manifestation.

2. Strongly reaffirms the provisions of the statements and resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers and the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Conferences in this respect.

3. Appeals to all Member States to stand resolutely against these challenges and to confront them with every available means so that the values, shrines and rights of Muslim monorities and communities in non-Islamic States may not be subject to profanation, demolition or confiscation.

4. Requests the Secretary General to circulate to all Member States the legal and procedural memorandum prepared by the Gneral Secretariat concerning the conclusion of an in international legal document so as to ensure observance of the Islamic values and sanctities, in order to elicit their opinions and observations concerning the substance and form of the document; in preperation for the setting up of a Governmental Expert Group to examine the issue and conceive a legal document thereon, in the light of the observations that may be put forward by the Member States, and on the basis of relevant international instruments, and to submit the results of the work of the Group to the next Islamic Conference.

RESOLUTION NO. 13/23-C
ON THE
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION AND ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE ISLAMIC SOCIETY

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Considering the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs concerning the International Islamic Women's Organization;

Conscious of the growing need for Muslims throughout the world to promote Islamic revival and to create societies based on the Islamic principles of peace, justice and equality for all human beings;

Convinced that these noble objectives can only be achieved through the participation of all Muslims, including Muslim Women who constitute half of the Islamic Ummah;

Having taken note of the Symposium on the Role of Women in the Development of Islamic Society held, at the expert level, at the kind invitation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in Tehran on 17 to 19 Zul Qaadah 1415H (17-19 April 1995) in implementation of Resolution No. 10/7-C (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

Having taken note of the provision of the report of the Secretary General on the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing;

Expressing its appreciation for the good preparation and coordination among the OIC Member States in this respect;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1- Decides to submit the results of the Symposium on the Role of Women in the Development of Islamic Society, held in Tehran to the Islamic Fiqh Academy for review and comments to be submitted to the next Conference of Foreign Ministers.

2- Supports in this regard the consultations on women's issues at the Muslim Women Parliamentarians Conference held on 1-3 August 1995 in Islamabad (Pakistan).

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3- _Reaffirms_ that the implementation of the documents adopted by the Fourth World Conference of Women in Beijing will be carried out by the Member States according to their sovereignty right while taking into consideration their respective constitutions, national legislations, religious and moral values and in such a way as to conform with the principles of our true Islamic religion.

RESOLUTION NO. 14/23-C
ON
CHILD CARE AND PROTECTION IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Bearing in mind the Declaration issued by the World Summit on the Child and the Plan of Action which urge the development of national programmes for children;

Recalling resolution 2/6-C(IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference;

Recognizing that millions of children in the Islamic World die in mass as a result of diseases from which they may be protected or because of malnutrition; and that other millions suffer from the same circumstances in famines, drought and armed conflicts;

Having taken note of the report of the Experts Symposium held at the OIC Headquarters from 28 to 30 June 1994 to prepare a Draft Document on the Rights and Care of the Child in Islam;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on Child Care and Protection in the Islamic World and listened to the views of the representatives of the Member States, bodies and organisations;

Having considered also the Note submitted by the Republic of the Sudan on child refugees from the Sudan;

Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 16/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

1. Hails the Declaration on Child Rights and Protection in Islam which was drawn up by the expert-level Meeting held at the General Secretariat headquarters from 28 to 30 June 1994 and which clearly focused on the teachings of the Islamic faith and its noble values enjoined on us by the Holy Quran and the noble tradition of the Prophet (PBUH) and by which the Muslim Ummah is distinguished from all other peoples of the world. The Declaration is to serve as a reference by which the peoples and governments of this Ummah will be guided in drawing up their child care programmes. It will also serve as a notification to all other peoples of the world of Islam's stand on children's affairs.

2. Calls upon all Member States to sign and ratify the UN 1989 Convention on Child Rights before the end of 1995, to see to the alignment thereon of their national legislations and to pay special attention to the incorporation of Children's issues into their relevant national programs for the realization of the objectives of the Five Year (1991-95) and Ten-Year (1991-2000) plans for children; and the necessity of participation and positive cooperation in the external follow-up activities at the international level particularly in conjunction with the UN specialized organs such as the Copenhagen Conference on Social Development held in Copenhagen, Denmark, in March 1995 and the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing, China, in September 1995, both of which accorded utmost importance to the protection of children and women which is compatible with the precepts of the True Islamic Religion.

3. Requests those Member States which have ratified the Convention to take the necessary steps to bring their constitutions, laws and practices in line with the provisions of the Convention.

4. Supports the concept of "debt relief for developing countries for the sake of child survival and development" as a basic consideration for alleviating the debt burden on developing countries.

5. Welcomes the concept of 20/20, whereby 20 per cent of national budgets should be devoted to basic social services and the same percentage of Official Development Assistance should be assigned to the same sectors and recommends it to the Member-governments for appropriate implementation.

6. Calls upon Member States to adopt every necessary measure to prevent any further armed conflicts while considering measures for conflict prevention, management and resolution, and to pay special attention to the needs of children and women, who have been the major victims in recent wars, in particular by allowing, in time of conflict, periods of truce and corridors of peace, for the passage of relief supplies, immunization against diseases and the provision of health services; and by banning the manufacture, stockpiling, import, export and use of land mines, a weapon whose victims are primarily women, children and other civilians and whose devastating effects continue long after the conflict.

7. Expresses deep concern over the plight of Sudanese child refugees and requests all bodies to exert their maximum efforts in order to assist these child refugees, expedite their return and reuniting them with their families. It also calls for the non-involvement of these children in any armed conflict and not to recruit

them in the armed forces or for any other actions which may place their personal safety and security at risk.

8. Requests the General Secretariat to follow up the implementation of the resolution of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference on the convening of the Ministerial Conference on Child Affairs in Islamic Countries.

9. .Calls upon Member States to collaborate among themselves and to act individually and collectively, to play a leading role in the international arena and thus serve as a model for what can be achieved for the benefit of children.

RESOLUTION NO.15/23-C ON THE UNIFIED HIJRI CALENDAR FOR THE BEGINNING OF LUNAR MONTH AND THE UNIFICATION OF ISLAMIC HOLIDAYS

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the OIC and the recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, for the establishment of a Unified Hijri Calendar for the beginning of Lunar months and the Unification of Islamic Holidays;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organizatioan of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 13/7-C (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

1. Appeals to all Member States and Islamic institutions to use the time schedules prepared by the Committee on the Unified Hijri Calendar as a basis for their own calendar.

2. Calls upon the Member States to uniformly observe Friday as the weekly holiday and to use the Hijri date.

3. Calls upon the member States, the General Secretariat and the Islamic Fiqh Academy to seek the assistance of Islamic jurists and astronomers with a view to reaching an agreement on the unificaiton of the Hijri Calendar.

4. Reiterates the importance of convening a meeting of the Committee on the Unified Hijri Calendar and of the other States joining the Committee to maximize coordination for unifying the beginnings of lunar months and Islamic Holidays in all Islamic countries.

RESOLUTION NO.16/23-C
ON
DESTRUCTION OF THE BABRI MASJID AND PROTECTION OF ISLAMIC HOLY PLACES

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the objectives of the OIC which stress the need for coordinated effort to safeguard the Islamic Holy Places and strengthen the struggle of Islamic peoples for the preservation of their dignity, independence and national rights;

Also recalling the resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, on the unified stand against the desecration of Islamic Holy Places, specially Resolution No. 3/6-C (IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference;

Noting that the Babri Mosque with its history spanning five centuries was the subject of veneration and respect of Muslims all over the world;

Recalling that the Organization of the Islamic Conference made several appeals to the Indian Government to prevent any violation of the sanctity of the Mosque and emphasized the responsibility of the Government of India for safeguarding the inviolability of the Mosque and protecting its building against attacks by Hindu extremists;

Expressing deep concern at acts of vandalism and violence perpetrated by Hindu extremists in India against the Muslim minority aimed at uprooting the Islamic culture and heritage in India.

Also expressing deep anger and indignation at the destruction of the Babri Mosque and resulting killing of thousands of innocent Muslims and the indiscriminate destruction of their homes;

Recalling also the resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the unified stand against the violations of the sanctity of Sacred Muslim Places;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 18/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13

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Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

1- Strongly condemns the destruction of the historic Babri Mosque in Ayodhya, India, by Hindu extremists and holds them responsible for this outrageous act of desecration and sabotage.

2- Expresses deep regret over the failure of the Indian authorities to take appropriate measures to protect this important Muslim holy site.

3- Strongly condemns the systematic killing of thousands of innocent Muslims in various parts of India and expresses deep concern over the safety and security of the Muslim minority in India.

4- Welcomes, in this respect, the decision made by the Supreme Court of India on 24 October 1994 that "the settlement of disputes were outside its jurisdiction".

5- Calls upon the Government of India to:

(a) Ensure the safety and protection of the Muslims and all Islamic Holy Sites throughout India in accordance with its responsibilities and obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments.

(b) Take immediate steps to implement its solemn commitment to reconstruct the Babri Mosque on its original site, to restore it as a holy place for Muslims, and to punish those guilty of the sacrilegious act of destroying a revered religious symbol of the Islamic world.

(c) Remove the makeshift Hindu temple, put together on the site of the Babri Mosque which is a continuation of the acts of desecration and an affront to the feelings of the Muslims in India and all parts of the Muslim world.

(d) Take immediate steps to ensure the protection of about 3,000 other Mosques especially those at Mathura and Varanasi, which have been the targets of threats and destruction attempts by Hindu extremists.

RESOLUTION NO. 17/23-C
ON
DESTRUCTION OF MOSQUES AND ISLAMIC MONUMENTS IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Bearing in mind the objectives of the OIC Charter concerning the safeguarding of Islamic identity;

Recalling the cultural and architectural history of Bosnia-Herzegovina which shows the harmonious diversity that shapes the identity of Bosnia-Herzegovina;

Noting that the total and horrifying destruction of mosques and other Sacred Islamic Places in Bosnia-Herzegovina by Serbs aimed at achieving ethnic cleansing constitutes a crime of genocide;

Recalling that the Organization of the Islamic Conference and UNESCO adopted many resolutions on saving the antiquities, liberaries and other Sacred Islamic Places in Bosnia-Herzegovina;

Having considered the recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 19/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

1. Calls upon the relevant subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to conduct a study aimed at drawing up a programme for rebuilding the libraries in Bosnia-Herzegovina with the assistance of the member countries of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

2. Urges Member States to assist in the rebuilding of the national and university libraries in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

3. Strongly condemns the destruction of the cultural entities and educational institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

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4. Calls upon the Secretary General of the OIC in coordination with the relevant UN bodies and other international institutions to take urgent steps to ensure the safety and the protection of Islamic monuments, educational institutions, libraries and other cultural entities in Bosnia-Herzegovina which are the common cultural heritage of all mankind.

5. Calls upon the OIC Member States to condemn the Serbian aggression, to help the restoration of the Islamic heritage in Bosnia-Herzegovina, to support the initiatives of the OIC Secretary General on this important issue and to set up a Committee which will start immediately the necessary planning and appraisal process for the restoration of the Islamic heritage in that country.

RESOLUTION NO.18/23-C
ON THE
INCLUSION OF INFORMATION ON THE ISLAMIC COMMUNITIES IN THE BLAKANS AND THE CAUCASUS IN THE HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY TEXT BOOKS AND OTHER PUBLICATION

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Considering that the emergence of new independent States in the Balkans, Caucasus and Central Asia, with Muslim populations possessing a valuable Islamic cultural heritage which had been concealed from the rest of the world for many years, has opened new vistas for cooperation among the OIC Member States and enlarged also the OICs field of interest and scope of activities;

Believing in this fact and desiring to promote contact between these Muslim peoples and the rest of the Islamic World, formulate programmes to strengthen the links of these peoples with their Islamic culture and at the same time inform the other Muslim peoples of the great contributions made by the peoples of these new states towards the building of the Islamic civilization;

Taking note of the recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on the subject;

Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 25/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

1. Calls upon the OIC Member States to incorporate into the geography and history textbooks of their schools and other relevant publications information concerning Muslim Communities in the Balkans, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

2. Also calls upon the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre to carry out a preliminary study and draw up a work programme on this issue with a view to convening an expert meeting in the near future.

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RESOLUTION NO.19/23-C
ON THE
PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE TO THE MUSLIMS IN KOSOVA AND SANJAK

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Noting the total and terrible destruction by the Serbs of economic life and cultural heritage pursuant to their objective of ethnic cleansing;

Considering the great difficulties faced by the citizens of Kosovo and denial of the exercise of their cultural and economic rights;

Referring to the recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Economic Affairs;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on the subject;

Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 26/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

1- Strongly condemns the Serb aggression against the Muslim Albanian population of Kosovo, aimed at depriving this population of their Islamic identity and culture.

2- Urges all OIC Member States and the relevant OIC organizations to help the Albanians in Kosovo and Sanjak to preserve their cultural heritage and Islamic identity against the Serb aggression.

RESOLUTION NO.20/23-C
ON THE
PROTECTION OF THE CULTURAL HERITAGE AND THE EDUCAITONAL INSTITUTIONS IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Gonakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Having taken note of the recommendations made by the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs; of the resolution of the Fourteenth Session of the Executive Council of ISESCO on its role in supporting the cultural and educational institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina; of the report of the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA, Istanbul) on its activities in the fields of research and publishing of the Islamic cultural heritage of Bosnia-Herzegovina; the Mostar 2004 Project in the area of rebuilding the historic city; and the activities of the Centre aimed at furthering the awareness of the international public opinion about the Islamic heritage, in implementation of the resolutions of the Twenty-first Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Karachi - April 1993);

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on the subject;

Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 27/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

1. Strongly condemns the Serb aggression, and its destruction of cultural entities and educational institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

2. Calls upon the Secretary General of the OIC, in coordination with the relevant UN bodies and other international institutions, to take urgent steps to ensure the safety and protection of Islamic monuments, educational institutions, libraries and other cultural entities in Bosnia-Herzegovina which are part of the common cultural heritage of all mankind.

3. Calls for the establishment of a Committee which will start work immediately on planning and assessing the restoration of the Islamic heritage in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

4. Supports the initiatives of the OIC Secretary General on this important issue.

5. Also calls upon the OIC Member States to assist in the restoration of the Islamic heritage and educational institutions, including libraries, in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

6. Commends the support extended by ISESCO through its work programme for the benefit of educational institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina and through allocation of special amounts in its budget for financing these institutions.

7. Stresses the importance of the "MOSTAR 2004" Project initiated by the Istanbul Centre (IRCICA) and commends the steps taken to implement this ambitious plan, and calls on the concerned institutions to extend the necessary support to the Centre so that it can continue with the project for listing Islamic historic monuments, preserving the unique cultural identity of Bosnia-Herzegovina and protecting the country's civilizational heritage.

RESOLUTION NO.21/23-C
ON THE
PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ISLAMIC CENTRE FOR ADVANCED MEDICAL TRAINING AND RESEARCH IN BANGLADESH

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers on the Centre and the recommendation of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the proposal for the establishment of an Islamic Centre for Advanced Medical Training and Research in Bangladesh;

Having taken note of the clarifications made by the People's Republic of Bangladesh;

Recognizing the need for the Muslim Ummah to have an Advanced Medical Training and Research Centre;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 14/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

1. *Requests* the General Secretariat to intensify its on-going contacts with Member States aimed at obtaining their views and comments on the subject and to conduct further research on the technical and financial requirements of the project.

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RESOLUTION NO.22/23/-C
ON THE
PROPOSED PROJECT FOR A NEW CAMPUS FOR THE ZEITOUNA UNIVERSITY IN TUNISIA

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences regarding this project and the recommendations of the Nineteenth Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Underlining the importance of the role being played by this educational institution in the service of Islam and Muslims;

Expressing satisfaction over and appreciation of the efforts rendered by the Government of Tunisia aimed at developing and supporting this University by building a new campus adjacent to Al-Zeitouna Mosque;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Commends the allocation of one million U.S. dollars made by the Islamic Development Bank for the project and recommends that the Bank transfer the said amount in accordance with the mechanism stipulated in the Agreement signed by the Republic of Tunisia and the Bank in 1992.

2. Reiterates its support for the construction of a new campus so as to enable the University to consolidate its educational and cultural role, and its commitment in favour of the implementation of the project.

3. Urges the Member States, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the Islamic institutions to continue extending every financial, material and moral support so that the University can raise the amount of 4,595,000 US Dollars needed in order to speed up the completion of the new campus.

4. Calls on the Board of Governors of the Islamic Development Bank to consider including the project of the new building of the Zeitouna University among the institutions that benefit from the Bank's Islamic Universities Waqf.

RESOLUTION NO.23/23-C
ON THE
DESTRUCTION OF CHARAR-E-SHARIF ISLAMIC COMPLEX IN KASHMIR

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Having considered the presentation of the Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, expressed its deep concern over the Indian armed action on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha of 1415H, which resulted in damages to over 1500 houses and shops and the destruction of holy relics including the Mosque and Islamic Complex at Charar-e-Sharif which was razed to the ground.

1- "Strongly deplore the destruction of the 535 years old Islamic complex at Charar-e-Sharif which constitutes a serious attack against the Islamic heritage of the Muslim people of Kashmir.

2- Expresses its concern over the loss of life and the burning of over 1500 houses of the civilian residents of Charar-e-Sharif.

3- Urgees the international community particularly OIC member states to spare no effort to ensure protection of the fundamental rights of the Kashmiri people including their right to self-determination in accordance with the UN resolutions as well as safeguarding their religious and cultural rights and their Islamic heritage.

4- Requests the Secretary General to establish necessary contacts urgently for evaluating the damage and providing emergency assistance for the reconstruction of the Mosque and the Islamic complex at Charar-e-Sharif.

RESOLUTION NO.24/23-C
ON THE
TWINNING OF PALESTINIAN UNIVERSITIES IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND UNIVERSITIES IN THE OIC MEMBER STATES

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the various previous Resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, on the Twinning of Palestinian universities in the Occupied Territories with Member States' universities;

1. Calls on Member States to implement operative paragraph (1) of Resolution 5/19-C on twinning of Palestinian universities with the universities of Member States, adopted by the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

2. Approves the recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs which call for the necessity of strengthening Islamic solidarity with the people and students of Palestine through establishing twinning relations between universities in Member States and Palestinian universities in the Occupied Territories to enable the latter to overcome their difficulties, confront the Israeli designs aimed at impeding their functioning, fulfil their educational mission in the best manner and contribute to the reinforcement of the Palestinian national authority.

3. Recommends to extend every kind of financial and academic support and assistance to the universities in the occupied territories so that they may be able to play their national and educational role, and supports in particular the Open University of Al-Quds in view of its great importance in supporting the steadfastness of its people and the preservation of the Arab and Islamic heritage of the Holy City.

4. Calls upon the Member States to see to it that their universities receive training and academic delegations from the Universities of the occupied Palestinian territories to work in their Universities.

5. Calls upon the Member States to contribute towards training the Palestinian youth in their Universities and exchanging educational delegations in various academic fields, so as to assist the Palestinian

Universities in performing their tasks during the overall reconstruction of the Palestinian National Authority and elleviate the material and academic difficulties which may emerge.

RESOLUTION NO.25/23-C
ON THE TEACHING OF THE SUBJECT OF THE HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY OF PALESTINE

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences, and the recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the teaching of the history and geography of Palestine;

1- Commends the efforts made by the Commission entrusted with the elaboration of curricula for the teaching of the History and Geography of Palestine and calls on the General Secretariat and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) to expeditiously print and communicate the curricula to the Member States in implementation of the relevant Islamic Resolutions.

2- Calls upon all educational organs and institutions in the Member States to contribute effectively to the teaching of the approved subject of the History and Geography of Palestine for the three levels of education so as to educate the young generations of the Islamic Ummah about the Palestinian territories and the rights of their Arab and Muslim people, and safeguard the Islamic and historic heritage of Palestine and particularly in Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

3- Appeals to the Member States and the IDB to contribute to the costs of printing the approved curricula in the three OIC languages as well as in the national languages of non-Arabic-speaking States.

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RESOLUTION NO.26/23-C
ON THE
EDUCATIONAL SITUATION IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES, AND SYRIAN GOLAN.

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendation issued by the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, concerning educational situation in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and Syrian Golan;

1. Condemns the measures taken by the Israeli occupation authorities against the educational and cultural organs and institutions in the occupied Palestinian territories and aimed at denying the Palestinians access to education, so as to obliterate their national identity and sever their relation with their education and history, and distort their culture to serve the designs of occupation.

2. Appeals to the Member States to support the efforts of the Palestine Liberation Organization aimed at promoting the educational process in the occupied Palestinian territories over the transitional period, and to provide it with technical and financial means for the development of the necessary curricula for all educational levels.

3. Calls upon Member States to promptly extend every kind of academic and financial assistance and support to the educational sector in the occupied Palestinian territories so that it may fulfill its mission in the reconstruction of the Palestinian national institutions and so that the educational institutions may contribute to the establishment of the Palestinian people's national authority on their homeland, and as a further enhancement to Islamic solidarity with the Palestinian people.

4. Calls upon Member States to extend every necessary assistance to provide the financial requirements for the promotion of the educational process in the occupied territories in general and in the City of Al-Quds in particular, in view of the great difficulties faced by education in the holy City on account of the practices of the Israeli occupation authority aimed at the judaization of the City and at severing it from its Arabo-Islamic environment.

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5. Condemns the Israeli acts of repression against and the closure of educational institutions in the occupied Syrian Golan, and in particular the banning of the Syrian textbooks and educational system, barring Syrian students from pursuing their studies in Syrian universities, depriving the Syrian students who pursue their higher education in the Arab Republic of Syria of their right to return, imposing the Hebrew Language on the Syrian students, imposing curricula which incite to hatred, hostility and religious fanaticism, laying off Syrian teachers, all of which constitute acts which flagrantly violate the Fourth Geneva Convention signed on 12 August 1949, on the protection of citizens in times of war, and which in fact but give further staying power to the resistance of the Syrian Arab people in the face of the Israeli parties aimed at the obliteration of their Arab cultural identity and declares its support for the maintenance of the Syrian Arab educational curricula and the provision of educational and cultural requirements.

6. Appeals to the international specialized organs and institutions to oppose this Israeli policy which violates international law and conventions and the Universal Human Rights Declaration.

7. Recommends the General Secretariat to continue its coordination with the international organs and institutions and particularly the UN and its specialized agencies, mainly the UNESCO and UNRWA with the purpose of giving assistance to the PLO and providing the necessary support for the development and updating of curricula at all educational levels. This is to be done within the framework of the establishment of the Palestinian national authority which is impeded by financial difficulties resulting from a deficit in terms of currently available resources to meet the requirements for the development of academic life in the occupied Palestinian territories.

8. Invites the Member States to extend all necessary facilities to the Palestinian students so as to enable them to enroll in their universities and specialized institutes and thus help them complete their university studies and also underlines the need to increase the number of scholarships and seats for the benefit of the Palestinian youth in the Islamic States and particularly in the fields of higher studies, technical, technological and teacher training.

9- Calls for extending support to the Open University of Al-Quds in view of its vital importance in strengthening the resistance of the Palestinian people and enabling them to continue their university studies and also calls for extending all the technical and financial assistance necessary for the university to develop and settle its problems so that it may open new branches and discharge its educational mission in an optimal manner.

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10. Expresses its high appreciation for the role played by the Palestinian schools and universities in the preservation of the Palestinian culture and heritage and in confronting the measures adopted by the Israeli occupation authorities against the educational and cultural institutions and organs in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories.

11. Reaffirms the need to implement the recommendation addressed to Islamic Universities' managements to receive training and academic missions from the universities of the occupied territories to work in their universities for short periods .

12. Recommends to provide all kinds of financial and academic assistance and support to the universities of the occupied territories in implementation of the successive Islamic Conferences, and to work for the establishment of a Centre for Higher Studies in the occupied Palestinian territories.

13. Calls for support to the resistance of the Syrian people in the occupied Golan against the Israeli practices aimed at obliterating their Arab cultural identity and proclaims its support for the maintenance of Syrian Arab educational programmes and the provision of educational and cultural requisites.

RESOLUTION NO.27/23-C
ON THE
PRESERVATION OF THE ISLAMIC CHARACTER OF AL-QUDS AL-SHARIF AND ITS HUMAN HERITAGE AND RELIGIOUS RIGHTS

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the earlier resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendation of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs concerning the preservation of the Islamic character of the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and its human heritage;

1. Reiterates all earlier Islamic resolutions on the preservation of the Islamic character of Al-Quds and its human heritage.

2. Condemns the aggressive and expansionist policies of the Zionist enemy and particularly its policy which seeks to establish further settlements and to transfer and resettle hundreds of thousands of Jewish immigrants in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, which are policies aimed at seriously altering in their demographic and historic nature and judaizing them, which may jeopardize the Peace Process and represents a flagrant violation of international law and of the relevant U.N. and Security Council Resolutions.

3. Calls for the continuation of action at all Islamic and international levels with a view to forcing Israel to abrogate its decision to annex the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, reaffirming the City's Arabo-Islamic chracter and reject its annexation or judaization, pursuant to the relevant resolutions of international legality, and particularly the UN Security Council's resolutions No. 465 and 478.

4. Requests the General Secretariat to continue its coordination with the international organs and institutions and particularly with the UNESCO to prevent the Israeli authorities from demolishing the buildings around the Al-Quds Holy Shrine and to stop their excavation works especially on the south side of the Holy Shrine whose objective is to destroy the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and erect their alleged temple on its site.

5. Recommends that an information seminar be organized on the City of Al-Quds particularly under the current situation so as to inform public opinion of imminent threats to the City, and the need to safeguard the Islamic and Christian Shrines and guarantee the right of worship for all believers.

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6. Urges the General Secretariat and the OIC Member States to extend every material assistance to enable the Palestinian people to face up to the Israeli challenges and schemes aimed at obliterating religious monuments of the Holy City of Al-Quds, and reaffirms the need for extending all sorts of support and assistance to the residents of Al-Quds Al-Sharif for the repairing of their houses, support to their steadfastness and salvaging the Islamic shrines in Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

7. Commends, in this context, the efforts being exerted by Al-Quds Committee of the Organization of the Islamic Conference under the Chairmanship of King Hassan II, the Monarch of the Kingdom of Morocco.

RESOLUTION NO.28/23-C ON THE ISRAELI AGGRESSIONS AGAINST ISLAMIC SHRINES IN AL-KHALIL

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Reaffirming the objectives of the Charter of the OIC aimed at ensuring coordination for the safeguard and liberation of the Holy places;

Recalling the resolutions adopted by Islamic Conferences on the Unified Stand Against the Profanation of Islamic Sanctities and Values, in particular resolution 3/6-C(IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference and 17/21-C of the Twenty-First Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Expressing its grave concern over the schemes being devised against the Enclosure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil with the aim of Judaizing it, seizing part of it and preventing worshippers from entering it;

Recalling Security Council resolution number 904 (1994) on the Massacre in the Enclosure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil;

1. Strongly condems the repeated Israeli aggressions against the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil, in particular, the massacre perpetrated by the settlers against Palestinian worshippers in the Enclosure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Ramadan 1414H killing tens of them.

2. Strongly condemns the aggressive Israeli scheme for the partition of the Enclosure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil, which aims at seizing and judaizing most of it and building a Jewish Synagogue therein, and which constitutes an aggression against Islamic sanctities and feelings and a violation of all international Conventions and Charters in particular the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

3. Requests Member States to coordinate and intensify their efforts in the various international fora to prevent the implementation of the Israeli scheme for partitioning the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil, to ensure its access for Muslims and to preserve the integrity of the Ibrahimi Enclosure as a Mosque for Muslims only as it has been through the ages; it warns Member States against any slackness in this regard as this would encourage Israel to undermine the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and other Islamic and Christian shrines.

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4. Calls upon Member States to ensure the restoration of the old district in Al-Khalil, to safeguard the heritage and civilization of this historical city and its residents of the Palestinian families in an effort to counter Jewish colonization.

RESOLUTION NO.29/23-C
ON THE
RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC HISTORY, ART AND CULTURE (IRCICA), ISTANBUL

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA), Istanbul; and the recommendations of the Tenth and Eleventh meetings of the Board of Directors of the Centre (Kuwait, November 1993; Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, 3-4 December 1994);

Commending the First Islamic International Festival of Artisans at Work (Islamabad, October 1994) and the Bosnia Herzegovina Exhibition organized by the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture, Istanbul on the occasion of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having considered the Report of the Director General of the Centre on its activities and future plans of action; the Conference:

1- Commends the efforts of the Centre as reflected in its pioneering accomplishments and its activities aimed at meeting the needs of the Muslim Ummah and keeping pace with international developments in the field of Culture and Islamic Heritage in the optimal way, thus warranting satisfaction with and appreciation of the efforts exerted in this respect.

2- Approves the report submitted by the Centre on its activities and future plan of action as well as the report and recommendations of the Twelfth Session of the Board of Directors of the Centre, and the recommendations of the General Assembly of the Centre made at the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs.

3- Expresses its appreciation for the diverse activities carried out by the Centre with the aim of raising the awareness of world opinion with respect to the Islamic cultural heritage in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and for the efforts it exerts for the maintenance and preservation of that heritage.

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4- Request IRCICA in Istanbul to make contacts with Member States to prepare an exhibition on Islamic heritage and culture pursuant to the relevant resolutin of the Seventh Islamic Summit, aimed at publicizing the different dimensions of that culture and its role in building human civilization and its values and ideals.

5- Expresses satisfaction at the Centre's commemoration of its Fifteenth Anniversary and, on this occasion, extends its thanks and gratitude to H.E. Suleyman Demirel, President of the Republic of Turkey, for having graciously given his patronage to the commemoration of this event which will enhance the prestige of the Centre in the world academic circles.

6- Expresses thanks to the Arab Republic of Egypt for hosting the first International Seminar on Handicrafts in Islamic Architecture which was organized jointly by the Centre and the Ministry of Culture of Egypt in Cairo in December 1995.

7- Expresses its thanks and appreciation to the host country (The Republic of Turkey) and to the other Member States, particularly the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the voluntary material and moral support they are extending to the Centre, thus enabling it to carry out its tasks in a satisfactory manner.

8- Expresses its thanks to the Member States which regularly pay their contributions in the budget of the Centre in accordance with the resolution of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference, in particular the State of the United Arab Emirates, and calls on the Member States in arrears with their contributions to follow its example in compliance with the resolution of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference.

9- Recommends the Member States to pay their contributions to the budget of the Centre on a regular basis and calls upon the Member States in arrears to settle their contributions so that the Centre can implement its current and future plans of action.

RESOLUTION NO.30/23-C
ON THE
INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE ISLAMIC CULTURAL HERITAGE (ICPICH), ISTANBUL

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the earlier Resolutions adopted by the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH);

Having considered the report submitted by the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage,

1- Approves the report of the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage including its work plan.

2- Addresses its thanks to the Governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of Turkey, for their moral and material support to the Commission and sponsoring its projects.

3- Expresses its appreciation to the efforts exerted by the Chairman of the Commission, HRH Prince Faisal Ibn Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz in order to realize its objectives.

4- Expresses its satisfaction to note that the Commission's activities contribute to promoting general awareness on the preservation of the Islamic cultural, artistic and architectural heritage and its cooperation with IRCICA in implementing the architectural workshops on the reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

5- Commends the efforts of the Commission to assist calligraphers, artists and archivists from the Member States in upgrading their skills.

6- Appeals to the Member States to pay regularly their contributions and settle their arrears in the budget of the Commission.

7- Expresses thanks to the Member States which have paid their arrears in the budgets of the Commission, in accordance with the resolution of

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the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference, particularly the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the State of the United Arab Emirates. It _calls on_ States having arrears to follow suit in this regard.

RESOLUTION NO.31/23-C
ON THE
ISLAMIC FIQH ACADEMY

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Islamic Fiqh Academy;

Recalling again the Statute of the Academy, its goals and objectives, and the general plan adopted by the Academy Council at its first session held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah for unifying the Muslim Ummah and aligning its ranks so that it may remain glorious and impregnable through its faith, enlightened with its Shari'ah, constantly strong and able to meet present-day challenges and face contemporary problems;

Expressing its appreciation of the resolutions, recommendations and interpretations adopted by the Islamic Fiqh Academy at its previous sessions.

Following with increased interest the activities and achievements of the Academy with particular reference to the period following the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Commending the Academy's sustained efforts to implement its various projects, foremost among which are the Fiqh Encyclopaedia of Economic Affairs and Transactions, the Comprehensive Index of Fiqh Rules, the heritage revival projects, the Glossary of Fiqh terminology, the simplification of Fiqh, as well as its valuable efforts exerted in the exercise of the functions previously assigned to the Islamic International Law Commission;

Expressing satisfaction at the efforts of the Academy in convening scholarly seminars, conferences and meetings jointly with Islamic organizations and institutions of Member States, as well as its sustained endeavours to enhance cooperation with relevant Universities and scientific institutes;

Having listened with interest to the report submitted by His Eminence Sheikh Dr. Mohammed Habib Ben Khodja, the Secretary General of the Islamic Fiqh Academy in Jeddah in which he reviewed the various activities and achivements which were accomplished last year as well as the projects which will be carried out in future in the fiqh, economic, academic and intellectual fields in particular.

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1. Commends the efforts of the Secretary General and the staff of the General Secretariat of the Academy and exhorts the Member States to pay their contributions in the budget of the Academy and to continue supporting it so as to enable it to accomplish its tasks as required in the service of Islam and the vital causes of the Islamic Ummah.

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RESOLUTION NO.32/23-C ON THE ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY FUND AND ITS WAQF

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12, December, 1995),

Recalling Resolution No.31/7-C(IS) adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference (Session of Brotherhood and Revival), held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco in 1415H (1994) in which it reiterated the importance of the tasks of the ISF and its objectives which aim at promoting Islamic solidarity through contribution towards religious, cultural, scientific and social programmes and projects, in the Member States or in favour of Muslim communities and minorities in the Non-Member States;

Recalling Resolution No. 31/22-C adopted by the Twenty-second ICFM (Session of Brotherhood and Revival), held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco in 1415H (1994), which affirmed its strong attachment to the preservation of this important Islamic organ which is considered a glorious symbol of Islamic solidarity and a major financier of all the cultural, spiritual and social activities of our Organization;

Noting with appreciation the achievements of the Fund during the past 20 years, confirming Islamic solidarity extending support to official and popular institutions in charge of the affairs of culture, higher education, Islamic guidance and youth welfare in all parts of the Islamic World;

Noting with satisfaction the mobilization of a significant part of the capital of the ISF Waqf and stressing the necessity of finalizing the Waqf's capital which amounts to US$ 100 million in order to provide income which would enable the Fund to realize self-financing of its annual budgets;

Having considered the report submitted by the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the ISF on the financial constraints and obstacles faced by the Fund when financing its budgets and executing its annual programmes, due to the depletion of its resources, which resulted in halting several of its annual activities;

1. Underlines the important noble objectives of the Fund which represent a lofty symbol of the joint Islamic determination of the Islamic States on the great importance they give to Islamic solidarity.

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2. Expresses deep thanks and appreciation to the Member States which have extended generous and regular donations to the Fund and its Waqf without which it would have been impossible for the Fund to carry out its missions in favour of the Islamic Ummah.

3. Urges the Member States to pledge annual donations, according to their means, for the ISF budget and contribute to the capital of the Waqf's Fund and requests the Secretary General and the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the Fund to conduct the necessary contacts with the governments of the Member States in this respect.

4. Requests the Permanent Council of the Fund, in collaboration with the General Secretariat and the Board of Trustees of the Waqf, to organize periodic visits to the Islamic countries to explain the noble objectives of the Fund and its Waqf and urge them to extend voluntary contributions and donations to the Fund and its Waqf.

5. Approves the content of the report of the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the ISF.

6. Endorses the Permanent Council's approval of the closing accounts of the ISF for the financial year 1993/1994.

7. Calls upon the Permanent Council of the Fund to continue extending assistance to the cultural, social and educational projects in the Islamic world and according priority attention to projects approved by the Islamic Summit Conferences and Foreign Ministers Conferences.

8. Expresses thanks and appreciation to the Permanent Council, its Chairman, its Board of Trustees, its Chairman and the Executive Bureau of the Fund for the efforts they exert in order to realize the objectives of the Fund and its Waqf.

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RESOLUTION NO.33/23-C
ON THE
ISLAMIC EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (ISESCO)

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations adopted by the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs concerning ISESCO;

Having examined the report submitted by the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO);

1- Recommends the Member States to continue implementing the operative paragraphs of Resolution No. 32/7-C(IS) adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, held in Casablanca on 11-13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December, 1994), which commended the accomplishments made by ISESCO in the fields of education, science and culture. It requests ISESCO to carry on its efforts for the achievement of its noble goals, and praises once again:

(a) The Special Islamic Programme on Literacy and Basic Training for all in Islamic Countries, and ISESCO's Project for Education to train teachers in Arabic language and Islamic education, as well as its Quranic script programme, and calls for extending the latter project to cover the rest of the Islamic countries. The Commission likewise calls for providing the Organisation with the necessary support in terms of assistance and facilities with a view to implementing this vital project.

(b) The achievements of the Islamic Organisation in the area of consolidation and development of cooperation relations with the Islamic and international organisations as well as for its efforts and participation in supporting the Islamic University in Niger, and invites ISESCO to extend this support to cover other Islamic institutes and universities.

(c) The establishment by the Islamic Organization of Al-Quds Al-Sharif Unit and Al-Quds Al-Sharif Fund and the activities carried out to safeguard the cultural properties in Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

(d) The programme being implemented by the Islamic Organisation, within the framework of cooperation

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between the OIC-UN systems, regarding the project of Basic Education and Training from the perspective of Human Resource Development in Islamic Countries, and invites the Islamic institutions, in particular the Islamic Dèvelopment Bank, to co-finance this project.

2- Urges the Member States which have not yet ratified the Islamic convention on equivalence of diplomas to hasten to do so.

3- Invites the Member States which have not yet joined ISESCO to set to join it in support of Islamic solidarity.

4- Urges the Member States which have not yet settled their contributions to the Organisation's budget to honour their financial obligations in order to enable the Organisation to implement its programmes and educational, scientific and cultural projects which are highly important for joint Islamic action for the preservation of the Islamic identity and the warding off of the external challenges.

RESOLUTION NO.34/23-C
ON THE
ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY GAMES, SPORTS FEDERATION

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the activities of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation (ISSF);

Having taken into consideration, with appreciation, the initiative of His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Bin Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz, Chairman of the Islamic Solidarity Games, Sports Federation and the President General of Youth Welfare, in organizing charitable competitions for the Sarajevo Football Team and teams selected from those of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, for the support of the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina, on the occasion of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Having considered the report submitted by the General Secretariat of the Federation on this subject;

Having been informed on the ambitious future plan which was recommended for implementation by the Committee of Experts and approved by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

1- Approves the provisions of the report of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation, including activities and programmes made ready for implementation.

2- Urges the Member States to take interest in the activities of the Federation currently being implemented as well as the future plan recommended by the Committee of Experts, and the next Tournament of the Islamic Solidarity Games.

3- Calls on the Member States to fulfil their obligations towards the Federation and requests Organizations concerned to allocate an annual contribution for the Federation. It hopes that able governments may assist the Federation by extending donations and grants so as to enable it to finance its programmes.

4- Welcomes the programmes which the Federation is planning to implement regarding cooperation with the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina in the field of youth and sport.

5- Expresses its thanks and appreciation to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and to His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Bin Fahd, President General of Youth Welfare, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and Chairman of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation, for the great attention and sponsoring the Federation as well as for helping in overcoming difficulties faced by the Federation so as to ensure continuation of its efforts aimed at realizing its objectives.

6. Endorses the initiative of His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Bin Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz, Chairman of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation and President General of Youth Welfare in holding a football tournament for Sarajevo Team and teams selected from those of the Kingdom of Saudi rabia, whose proceeds are for the support of the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

RESOLUTION NO.35/23-C
ON
THE ISLAMIC COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRESCENT, BENGHAZI

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the various resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs concerning the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent;

Having considered the Report of the committee's Elventh Meeting held in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

Expressing its recognition of the important role played by the Committee in the fields of humanitarian work and relief;

Having learned with deep sorrow the sudden demise of Dr. Ahmad Abdallah Al Sharif, President of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent in September 1995, decides the following:

1- Urges the Member States which have not yet signed or ratified the Articles of Agreement of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent to do so as soon as possible so as to enable it to carry out its tasks and realize its noble objectives.

2- Invites all the Member States and Islamic institutions to extend material and moral support to the efforts of the Committee so that it may realize its programmes.

3- Approaches the UN High Commission for Refugees regarding refugees and provide them care and protection.

4- Expresses profound thanks to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for extending support and facilities to the Committee during the period of its establishment.

5. Expresses sincere condolances to the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent and commends the praiseworthy efforts made with great dedication and enthusiasm, by the late Dr. Ahmad Abdallah Al Sharif in the service of his religion and the Muslim Ummah over many years in this important humanitarian field.

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RESOLUTION NO.36/23-C ON THE WORLD FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL ARAB-ISLAMIC SCHOOLS

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the resolutions of the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendation made by the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the World Federation of International Arab-Islamic Schools;

Having considered the report submitted by the Federation.

1- Recommends to the General Secretariat, Islamic organizations and institutions, Islamic Solidarity Fund, and the Islamic Development Bank to support the Federation's Plans and Projects and to extend to it all possible assistance required for the implementation of these plans and projects, and particularly:

(a) Appeals to the Islamic Solidarity Fund to extend its support for the holding of the Training courses for the Teachers of the Arabic language and Islamic Culture in Asia, Africa, Central Asia and the Balkan States.

(b) Recommends that the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Islamic Development Bank and the Muslim World League be called upon individually to contribute to the printing of the book for teaching Arabic for non-Arabic speakers that had been prepared by the Federation and its distribution among the Muslim children.

(c) Recommends addressing of thanks to the IDB for the support it had extended to the printing of the books for the Afghan children and calls upon the Bank to support the printing of the book for teaching Arabic for non-Arabic speakers that had been prepared by the Federation and the distribution of an appropriate quantity of the book to Muslim children in the name of the Bank.

(d) Recommends the extension of support for the Federation in the establishment and steering of a teacher training institute through the open educational system in Ndjamina so that it may

> undertake the task of following up the training and graduation of teachers in the States of Central Africa and call upon the Islamic Solidarity Fund to contribute to its functioning.

2. Recommends that the project of the Supreme Examinations' Council of the Arabic-Islamic Schools that has been established by the Federation, with the participation of the League of the Islamic Universities and the Muslim World League, with a view to placing the examinations of the private Islamic schools under the supervision of well known Islamic universities and to the granting of authentic certificates.

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RESOLUTION NO. 37/23-C
ON
DAWAH ACTIVITIES AND THE REACTIVATION OF THE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION OF ISLAMIC ACTION.

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Referring to the provisions of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference;

Inspired by the Makkah Al-Mukarramah Declaration issued by the Third Islamic Summit Conference, which provides that" "Believing in the need to propagate the principles of Islam and the spread of its culture, glory throughout the Islamic societies and in the world as a whole and to emphasize its rich heritage, its spiritual strength, moral values and laws conducive to progress, justice and prosperity, we are determined to cooperate to provide the human and material means to achieve these objectives. We also pledge to exert further efforts in various cultural fields to achieve rapprochement in the thinking of Muslims and to purify Islamic thought of all that may be alien or divisive";

Recalling the Dakar Declaration issued by the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference, which states that "the leaders of the Islamic Ummah are determined to provide the Organisation of the Islamic Conference with the required resources in order to support and coordinate Islamic Dawah efforts and to improve educational curricula and training programmes as well as to disseminate the teachings of Islam throughout the world, within the framework of cooperation among States and in respect of their sovereignty; and also to instill the lofty Islamic values";

Taking note of the recommendations adopted by the Nineteenth Islamic Commission for Economic Cultural and Social Affairs on the activities of Dawah and the reactivization of the Committee on coordination of Joint Islamic Action;

Recalling resolution 32/21-C of the Twenty-first Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers approving the development of an Islamic Dawah strategy in keeping with the provisions of the Cultural Strategy Document approved by the Sixth Summit Conference;

Recalling also of the Casablanca Declaration adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, and which underlines the need to endeavour diligently to enhance solidarity and align efforts in defense of all the Islamic causes and to safeguard Islamic values and preach by example and good counsel and persuasion;

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Taking note of the recommendations adopted by the Islamic symposia held in Niamey, Moscow, Kuala Lumpur and Sedney;

Recalling the various resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General of the Organisation;

1. Recommends that the Committee on Coordination of Islamic Action develop a mechanism for the accession thereto of Islamic organization which fulfill membership requirements.

2. Also recommends all Islamic organisations to cooperate with the Committee on Coordination of Islamic Action.

3. Requests the Islamic Cultural Centres and the Dawah Centres to educate the Pilgrims regarding the rites and ceremonies of Pilgrimage, prior to their arrival in the Holy Places to perform the Hajj duty.

4. Expresses appreciation to His Eminence Al-Imam Al-Akbar Sheikh Jadul-Haq Ali Jadul Haq, the Sheikh of Al-Azhar, and the Indonesian Government for hosting the Eighth and Ninth meetings of the Committee on Coordination of Joint Islamic Action in the field of Dawah in Cairo 1992 and Jakarta 1995 respectively.

5. Endorses the Draft Strategy of Joint Islamic Action in the field of Islamic Dawah prepared by the Expert Group mandated by the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers which recommended its circulation to the Member States during the Nineteenth Islamic Commission for Economic, Social and Cultural Affairs.

6. Calls on the Secretary General to convene further Islamic symposia on Islamic Culture and Dawah following confirmation of the usefulness of the previous symposia held in Niger, Malaysia, Moscow and Sedney.

7. Expresses thanks to the Islamic Solidarity Fund for its valuable material assistance it provides for the Islamic Symposia held by the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

8. Also express thanks to the Islamic Development Bank and the Islamic Dawa Society and other Islamic Institutions for supporting the General Secretariat to hold its Islamic Symposia.

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9. Recommends that the Committee on Coordination of Islamic Action, in coordination with the competent authorities in Member States, take care of, and pay attention, women in the field of Dawah instruction.

10. Notes with appreciation the offer made by the Government of Malaysia to host the Tenth Meeting of the Committee on Coordination of Joint Islamic Action in Kuala Lumpur from 12 to 15 January, 1996.

RESOLUTION NO. 38/23-C
ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF ISLAMIC YOUTH

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Guided by President Lausana Conte's key note speech and his judicious directives;

Considering the importance attached by Islam to the education and rehabilitation of Islamic youth;

Fearing the negative influences to which Islamic youth is subjected in general during the various stages of its growth;

Emphasizing the need of Islamic youth for an effort and a comprehensive mechanism to release its energies and develop its capacities in accordance with the noble Islamic values relating to youth;

Noting with satisfaction the progress made in the spread of Islam among youth throughout the world;

Expressing its conviction of the necessity to provide appropriate fields and mechanisms for the development of Muslim youth in accordance with its tolerant religion;

1. Urges Member States to pursue their efforts to firmly establish Islamic values and the cultural activities stemming therefrom among Islamic youth as a whole.

2. Notes with satisfaction the progress made in the spread of Islam among the various categories of youth in many countries.

3. Requests the Secretary General to submit a report to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers reviewing the fields and identifying the practical mechanisms to put into effect this responsibility towards Islamic world.

Annex VI

REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

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REPORT
OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE TWENTY-THIRD ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS
(SESSION OF PEACE, SOLIDARITY AND TOLERANCE)
CONAKRY, REPUBLIC OF GUINEA
17-20 RAJAB, 1416H
9-12 DECEMBER, 1995

The Administrative and Financial Affairs Committee of the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), met in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995) to examine the Agenda items referred to it by the Conference.

2. The Bureau of the Committee was composed of the same Member States as that of the Plenary, namely:

Chairman	- Representative of the Republic of Guinea.
Vice-Chairmen	- Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
	- Representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan.
	- Representative of the State of Palestine.
Rapporteur	Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco.

3. The Committee Sessions were chaired by H.E Ambassador Mamouna Bangoura of the Republic of Guinea.

4. The General Secretariat was represented by Dr. El-Hedi Hnetish, High Commissioner and Incharge of Administration and Finance, Mr. Abdullah Abdi Hersi, Director of Administration and Finance and Mr. Djibrilla Hima, Internal Auditor.

5. The Chairman opened the proceedings with a statement in which he welcomed the delegations and wished them a pleasant stay in the Republic of Guinea. The Chairman sought the assistance and cooperation of the delegations to facilitate his task in a positive atmosphere of true Islamic brotherhood and sincere determination to endeavour for achieving the noble objectives of Islamic solidarity.

6. The Committee then proceeded to examine the agenda items and agreed to submit to the Plenary, for adoption, the draft resolutions annexed to the present report.

I. Report of the Twenty-fourth Session of the OIC Permanent Finance Committee.

7. After reviewing document No. PFC/24-95/REP.Final), containing the Report of the Permanent Finance Committee, and document ICFM/23-95/AF/D.1 which contained the Secretary General's report, the Committee invited the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs to comply with and implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Permanent Finance Committee. The Committee also took note of the cases of overspending in the second and third chapters of the General Secretariat's budget for the financial year 1993/94 and recommended that they be approved on an exceptional basis whilst directing the General Secretariat to the need for it to confine itself to the allocations as stipulated in the approved budgets.

8. The Committee further took note of the Report of the Fifteenth Session of the Finance Control Organ and the replies of the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs to it and recommended that the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs implement the recommendations contained in the report. It also recommended that the General Secretariat submit its final accounts, for the preceding year, to the Finance Control Organ before submitting its proposed budget to the Permanent Finance Committee.

II. Budgets of the OIC General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs for the Financial Year 1995/96

9. After reviewing the recommendations of the Twenty-fourth Session of the Permanent Finance Committee concerning the proposed budgets for the fiscal year 1995/96, and the Report of the Secretary General (Doc. No. ICFM/23-95/AF/D.2) explaining the financial difficulties faced by the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs the Committee recommended that the budgets of the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs for the fiscal year 1995/96 be approved with an increase of 7% for the General Secretariat's budget, and 7.1% for the Islamic Fiqh Academy's budget and to maintain the previous ceilings for the budgets of the other Subsidiary Organs according to the attached Resolution.

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10. The Committee urged the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs to continue their efforts for rationalization of expenditure wherever possible, and invited them to abide by the Financial rules and regulations.

11. The Committee also urged the Member States to ensure regular and in time settlement of their mandatory contributions, consistent with the OIC Charter.

* The Committee examined the request of the Republic of Yemen to reduce the rate of its contributions to the OIC budgets in view of the economic difficulties it is facing, and showed understanding for this request. The Committee recommended that the General Secretariat should present a study on how the request could be implemented, to be submitted to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Permanent Finance Committee so that an appropriate recommendation be adopted on the subject.

* The Committee took note of the proposal of some Member States to create the post of an external auditor. It took note also of the comments of the General Secretariat on the subject. The Committee recommended that the General Secretariat be entrusted with preparing an integrated study on the post of the auditor on the basis of the regulations in force in similar organisations and avoiding duplication or conflict of attributions, and that the study be circulated to Member States in addition to the study presented by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on the subject, so that it may be submitted to the next session of the Permanent Finance Committee.

* The People's Democratic Republic of Algeria expressed its reservation on the proposed increase in the budget of the General Secretariat for fiscal year 1995/96, and stated that it would pay its contribution in accordance with the last year's budget (1994-95). Moreover, it reaffirmed that it does not consider itself committed to operations of expenditure made by organs of which it is not a member.

III. Financial situation of the OIC and the problem of the accumulation of arrears of mandatory contributions of Member States.

12. The Committee examined the Report of the Secretary General (Doc. ICFM/23-95/AF/D.10) and expressed deep concern over the precarious financial conditions facing the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs due to the delay or non-payment by Member States of their mandatory contributions until the arrears accumulated to US$87.4 million (Doc. No.ICFM/23-95/AF/D.10) despite the 50% concession accorded to Member States as per Resolutions No.1/6-AF(IS) and 1/7-AF(IS).

Hence, the Committee recommended the following:

- To extend the validity of the concession granted to the Member States that have arrears for an additional one year ending 30 June, 1997.
- To urge the Member States that have arrears to benefit from this extension and settle their arrears within the prescribed period.
- To consider the possibility of applying the sanctions envisaged in the report of the Expert Group (Doc. No. CAC/1-91/REP) which was approved by the Twenty-First Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, once the extension period is over (i.e. 30 June, 1997).

13. At the conclusion of the proceedings, the Committee expressed its sincere thanks and appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Guinea for the generous hospitality and for the excellent facilities it provided to ensure the success of the Conference.

14. The Committee also expressed its profound gratitude to its Chairman for the skilled manner and wisdom with which he steered its proceedings, which contributed so much to the success of its deliberations.

15. The Committee addressed its thanks to the General Secretariat for the clarifications and various efforts contributed towards the success of its deliberations.

Chairman
of the Committee for
Administrative and Financial Affairs

Conakry, 18 Rajab, 1416H
(10 December, 1995)

RESOLUTION NO.1/23-AF
ON
THE REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE PERMANENT FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Having considered the Report of the Twenty-Fourth Session of the Permanent Finance Committee and the Report of the Fifteenth Session of the Finance Control Organ on the Final Accounts of the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs for the financial year 1993/94, and the comments and replies of the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs;

1. Directs the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs to implement the recommendations made in the Report of the Permanent Finance Committee and to comply with them.

2. Also directs the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs to comply with the observations made in the Fifteenth Report of the Finance Control Organ.

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RESOLUTION NO.2/23/AF ON THE BUDGETS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT AND THE SUBSIDIARY ORGANS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1995/96

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 21 Rajab, 1416H (9-13 December, 1995),

Having taken cognizance of the recommendations of the Twenty-fourth Session of the Permanent Finance Committee regarding the budgets of the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs for the financial year 1995/96.

Having examined the budget proposals of the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs for the financial year 1995/96

Being aware of the financial difficulties faced by the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs in implementing their programmes and the resolutions of the Summit and Foreign Ministers Conferences;

Recalling Resolution No. 1/6-AF(IS) adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference which requested the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers to provide the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs with the necessary means to implement the programmes and resolutions which it adopts while bearing in mind the wish to develop the Organisation and to promote its coordination role.

Being aware of the economic realities and financial difficulties facing a number of Member States;

1. Adopts the budgets of the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs for 1995/96 to be financed totally by mandatory contributions of Member States in accordance with the charter and financial provisions as follows:

- General Secretariat	US$10,628,031
- Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development (IFSTAD) Jeddah.	US$1,304,300

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Islamic Fiqh Academy, (IFA) Jeddah.	US$1,650,000
Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTIC), Ankara	US$2,000,000
Islamic Institute of Technology (IIT) Dhaka.	US$2,120,438
Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA), Istanbul.	US$1,785,000
International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH), Istanbul	US$ 641,000
Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), Casablanca	US41,172,214

2. *Urges* the Member States to settle their contributions towards the budgets of the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs for 1995/96 in order to enable the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs to carry out the tasks entrusted to them.

RESOLUTION NO.3 /23-AF ON THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE OIC AND THE PROBLEM OF ACCUMULATION OF ARREARS OF MANDATORY CONTRIBUTIONS OF MEMBER STATES

The Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Being aware of the important role played by the Organisation of the Islamic Conference through its General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs, at both Islamic and International levels for consolidating Islamic solidarity and cooperation and for defending the causes of the Islamic Ummah;

Referring to Resolution No. 1/22-AF adopted by the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers which confirmed the principle of imposing sanctions against the defaulting Member States as of Ist July, 1996 in accordance with Resolution No. 3/21-AF adopted by the Twenty-first Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Expressing deep concern over the serious financial difficulties of the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs due to the delay in payment or non-payment of contributions by some Member States, a situation that led to the accumulation of arrears upto to more than US$87.4 million (Doc. No. ICFM/23-95/AF/D.10);

Having taken cognizance of the report of the Secretary General on the financial situation of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and the problem of accumulation of arrears of mandatory contributions (Doc. No. ICFM/23-95/AF/D.10);

1. Decides anew to extend the period of the concessional decrease for another one year ending on 30th June, 1997 for the arrears relating to the period upto the financial year 1991/92, at the rate of 50% if the arrears are settled in lump sum or 25% for those Member States which opt to pay in eight equal installments ending on 30th June, 1997, in consultation with the General Secretariat.

2. Urges anew the Member States that have not yet settled their arrears up to the financial year 1991-92 to do so as promptly as possible no later than 30 June, 1997.

3. Decides to consider the implementation of the sanctions approved by Resolution No. 3/21-AF of the Twenty-first Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers as of 1st July 1997.

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4. Requests the General Secretariat to follow up the matter and present a report thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.
